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LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1853.

REVIEWS.

The Colonial Policy of Lord John Russell's Administration. By Earl Grey. 2 vols. Bentley.

THESE volumes will agreeably surprise many readers. They will secure for Lord Grey the reputation of being a far more capable man than he has generally got credit for. During the five years that he guided the colonial policy of the British empire, vehement and incessant complaints were heard from all parts of the world. Downing-street misgovernment came to be more than ever a theme for the tirades of the Brutuses and Junises and Hampdens of the day. From the politico-philosophical public jester, Thomas Carlyle, down to the lowest caterer for the weekly press, abuse of Lord Grey was a standing topic for political writers. With the exception of an occasional speech in the House of Lords, no notice was taken by the colonial secretary of these attacks. People began to construe the silence into inability to reply. But this work now shows that official dignity and prudence alone dictated reserve, and that the absence of reply arose neither from indifference to public censure, nor from the want of materials of defence. It now appears that, with the exception of the differences arising out of the question of protection and free trade, and other controversies which have divided statesmen at home, the colonial policy with which Lord Grey's name was chiefly associated was the result of well-weighed counsel, the responsibility of which was shared not only by Lord John Russell as the head of the Whig party, but by all the leading men who, under previous administrations, have guided the affairs of the empire. Now and then some passing question abroad, such as Lord Torrington's government of Ceylon, has been made the subject of party warfare at home; but in all the great matters of permanent importance over which the Colonial Office has charge, the policy of Lord Grey has been identical with that of Lord Stanley (Earl Derby), of Sir Robert Peel, of Mr. Gladstone, and the other statesmen who have most studied the questions affecting colonial interests. It has been a policy conservative of the best welfare of the colonies, and conservative of the power and authority of the mother country. The statement now presented as to colonial administration during recent years is not a party pleading, far less a personal defence, but an exposition of the principles by which the home government has been guided in managing the affairs of the distant parts of the empire. Lord Grey enters into minute details on the measures affecting each colony, giving a full statement of the principles on which these measures were based, and a history of their results during the period that he was in office. Some of the subjects we are precluded from discussing on account of their purely political nature, but there are other general questions to which we may refer as chiefly relating to social progress and national history. The first of these is one at the present moment attracting much attention, the transportation of convicts to Australia, to which Lord Grey devotes a separate section. The form of the work, we may here observe, is that of letters addressed to Lord John Russell, as Premier of the administration in which the author was Colonial Secretary.

"Without entering into details, I must remind you of some of the leading principles of the measures we proposed. We considered that transportation, as hitherto conducted, was not a simple punishment, but included the two very distinct punishments of exile, and of subjecting the offender in some shape or other to penal labour, either in the service of a master to whom he was assigned, according to the practice which prevailed prior to 1841, or else under the immediate charge of officers of the Government at home or in the Colonies. We believed that both these elements of punishment were useful, and ought to be retained.

"Exile, by relieving the country from a dangerous class, and at the same time affording to the offender the best chance of again becoming a useful member of society, was regarded as highly advantageous; but by itself it was plainly not a sufficient punishment for serious offences, since it is notorious that thousands of persons annually submit to it of their own accord, merely from the desire of improving their condition. Even voluntary emigration however is still a painful effort to the great majority of those, who from this motive make up their minds to have recourse to it; and that compulsory banishment from their native country, is still more acutely felt by a large proportion of those sentenced to it, is sufficiently proved, by the urgency of the petitions which are often addressed to the government, not to remove convicts from this country or to exchange conditional for free pardons, so as to enable them to return. Hence, viewing exile as in itself a substantial punishment, and one which upon other grounds it was desirable to retain, but as being quite insufficient in itself, it appeared to us that the sentence of transportation should continue to involve the same two penal elements as heretofore.

"But we thought that experience had shown ample reasons, for altering both the mode and place of inflicting that part of the punishment, which consists in subjecting the offender to forced labour. The Committee of the House of Commons on transportation had, in the year 1838, for very good reasons, advised the discontinuance of the system of assignment. Since that time, the attempt to enforce penal labour on offenders kept under the charge of officers of the government in the colonies, had failed still more completely. There was room indeed to hope, that guided by the experience gained from that failure, there would be no difficulty in taking precautions that should prevent the recurrence of the evils which had arisen in Van Diemen's Land, at least in so aggravated a form, but still there were inherent difficulties in carrying into execution a system of penal labour in a remote colony. In such a situation the government could neither exercise a sufficiently close superintendence over the working of the system, nor yet command with the same facility as at home, the services of trustworthy and energetic subordinate officers, on whom the discipline and success of a penal establishment mainly depends. There could be little doubt that, if the large number of convicts in the penal gangs in Van Diemen's Land had been in penal establishments at home, the abuses which grew up would have been far sooner discovered and corrected, and that the difficulties which arose in getting an efficient staff of officers, would not have been experienced. Hence we considered that so much of the punishment of transportation as consists of penal labour, should be inflicted at home, or in comparatively neighbouring colonies.

"It was true, that for a long time many of the offenders sentenced to transportation had been punished at home, by confinement in the hulks with work in the dock-yards, and that the result had been the reverse of satisfactory. But, on the other hand, the experiment of the separate system at Pentonville had been eminently successful, and there was reason to hope that, by improvements which might be introduced, convicts, after going through a period of separate imprisonment, might be employed on public works, within reach of the constant inspection of the government, without the evils which generally attend the congregation

together of large bodies of men in such circumstances.

"With these views, it was stated in Sir George Grey's letter to which I have referred, that the punishment of transportation was intended in future, to consist of 'a limited period of separate imprisonment, succeeded by employment on public works, either abroad, as at Gibraltar or at Bermuda, or in this country; and ultimately followed, in ordinary cases, by exile or banishment for the remaining term of the original sentence.'

In an explanatory note Lord Grey further expounds the principles of the transportation system, as latterly acted on, bringing out more fully the two-fold object, first, of punishment, and second, of reformation, "the best and only hope of restoring convicts to society, as virtuous, industrious, and useful members of it, consisting in their being removed as exiles, and as freemen, after having undergone a penal imprisonment and servitude in the United Kingdom." It is worthy of notice that in the most recent debates on the subject in parliament, the opinion of most competent statesmen of all parties, including that of the Lord Chief Justice of England, confirms all that Lord Grey has advanced in his work. And if it be said that this is a question on which the colonists alone are entitled to judge, then may we point to many testimonies in favour of transportation as strong as those which are urged against it. The impartial and striking testimony of Mrs. Meredith in her book on Tasmania, and of Mr. Ronald C. Gunn (quoted ante, p. 65), are specimens of the opinions of colonists not influenced by the anti-convict league. Lord Grey quotes an amusing and satisfactory letter from one who went to Van Diemen's Land full of fears, founded on accounts of the state of the colony that have been diligently published, but which strangely contrast with the real security which exists. After stating that he left England and went to the colony "with the worst forebodings and prejudices," the writer proceeds:—

"In the dearth of accommodation within the rounds of the police, I was glad, after living three weeks in the ship, to take a lone house three miles from Launceston, on a road not patrolled, with a navigable river in its front, and dense bush behind it. My neighbours, at the distance of a long half mile, are a farmer who was a convict, a smith, a shoemaker, and a joiner, all of whom had been in the same predicament; and thus, with my seven dogs, and my pistols distributed amongst my English and German servants, I awaited my fate. My German governess, whose father is a captain in the Frankfurt service, loaded a double-barrelled gun; and my German butler contrived to have a complete armament in his bed-room: he put strings to a miserable dinner-bell, and on the least alarm we went our nightly rounds. We have a nasty ugly hill between us and the town, where the horses must walk, and where there is cover for highwaymen, so it was long a question whether I, the master of the house, ought to be out after dark, and whether we could safely accept dinner and dance invitations in the town.

"To-morrow I shall have been six months in my lone house. I went into my pantry yesterday, and my butler's pistols were not loaded. My German governess sent her double-barrel to be cleaned, and has not asked for it again. The plate is no longer brought regularly into my bed-room. I leave my forty-guinea 'Mortimer' double rifle in my study at the other end of the house. I have a convict coachman, a convict gardener, and some farm labourers, who were sent out here. My coachman and gardener live on the premises: we seem to have altogether ceased to feel alarm. We are out at all hours of day or night, without precaution and without apprehension. I have begun this letter in this

somewhat trivial manner, because I think that one personal case is better than a quantity of generalization. But I may go on to say, that we have spent days and nights in other settlers' houses, far more lonely and unprotected than our own,—houses built at different times, like our old English manor-houses, full of cornices and crevices, steps up and steps down, with fastenings to doors and windows of most untrustworthy description. I have walked through the dense bush, and driven miles and miles over roads where escape by means of speed had been impossible. Cheap living, a healthy climate, abundance of pleasant employment, a firm government, an active police, and, I may add, comfort even in the prisons,—these, and especially the three first, guarantee safety to our lives and property. . . .

" . . . I have lived in three country towns in England, and three years in London. I was one winter in Paris. I have spent, altogether, five years in Germany. I am competent to say conscientiously, that I have never been in better regulated, more quiet towns, than Hobart Town and Launceston. The country districts are the same. The road-side inns stand open, there are all sorts of shops in the villages, and people of all vocations go about their work as cheerfully and pleasantly as they do anywhere in England."

The system of tickets-of-leave is thus explained, and its advantages described:—

"In the colonies, those to whom tickets-of-leave are granted, are not allowed to leave the custody of the government, until they have made an agreement with some settler, to serve him for not less than a year; the employers being responsible for paying to the government a certain sum annually from their wages. The ticket-of-leave holders are not considered eligible for conditional pardons, until they have paid a certain sum in this manner, and have behaved well for a time, varying according to the length of their sentence. Thus a man transported for seven years, must behave well, as ticket-of-leave holder, for not less than a year and a half, in which a deduction from his wages, at the rate of 5*l.* a year, or 7*l.* 10*s.* in all, must be paid to the government. A man transported for twenty years, or for life, is not eligible for a conditional pardon until he has behaved well for five years, and has paid 25*l.* to the government. By this regulation, together with those by which a prisoner can abridge the period passed by him in the preliminary stages of his punishment, by industry and good conduct, he may obtain a conditional pardon when he has completed about half the term of his sentence, a sentence for life being reckoned for this purpose equivalent to one for twenty years. The holders of tickets-of-leave are required to reside in certain districts, and, as a general rule, at a distance from the towns and more settled portions of the colonies."

"It will be observed, that the regulations I have mentioned, as having been prescribed with regard to the holders of tickets-of-leave, are contrived for the purpose of retaining as much as possible of what was good, and rejecting what was evil, in the old system of assignment. They provide for the dispersion of the convicts, for their being kept at a distance from the towns, and in the districts to which free labourers will least willingly go. They also provide against these men having the command of much money, while they yet give them an interest in being industrious, by making the deduction from their wages a fixed amount, so that the more they earn the larger will be the surplus to be paid to them; and they have the same inducement to good conduct as the assigned servants, as they know that by such conduct they may certainly expect to obtain conditional pardons, while if they behave ill, not only will they lose this advantage, but even their tickets-of-leave can be withdrawn."

The whole of what Lord Grey has written on the subject of transportation, and on the treatment of convicts generally, is highly valuable at the present time, and ought to lead to great caution in any legislative interference which the demands of the colonists may render necessary on the part of the

Home Government. Whatever modifications may be advisable, the transportation system has worked on the whole well, and it would not be for the welfare of the empire at large, nor even for particular colonies, that it should be abandoned. With regard to the objection that it is absurd to punish a man by sending him to a country where gold is to be so readily obtained, and whither so many are freely emigrating, Lord Grey replies, that no sane man would commit crime from the motive of the distant prospect of the diggings, when he must first undergo the stern discipline of Pentonville for several months, followed by a year or two, or perhaps more, of severe labour at Portland, and then after reaching Australia have no chance of getting to the gold regions till half his time of exile has been spent in good conduct. This reply is sufficient, only we think that more means should be taken to make the full penalties of crime known in this country. Many are little aware of the rigorous punishment involved in the sentence of transportation, and there ought to be ways devised for more fully warning culprits of the consequences of their crimes. Old offenders feel all the horror of the sentence of transportation which Lord Campbell lately described in the House of Lords, but there are many who are little aware of the punishment in prison or the hulks involved in the sentence, and consequently are not deterred by its severity.

Passing from this subject we turn to another portion of Lord Grey's colonial review, offering subjects of more agreeable meditation to the politician or philanthropist. In the account of the settlements on the Gold coast, and other districts of the western coast of Africa, it is interesting to observe the nascent processes of civilization, judiciously aided by the Home Government, who have learned wisdom from the experience of the older colony of Sierra Leone. The following extract is also valuable, as showing the careful attention bestowed at the Colonial Office on places not of such importance in themselves as to attract much public notice, and thus testifying to the conscientious manner in which the superintendence of the British Government has been exercised for the good of distant regions. After giving a historical sketch of the cession of the Danish forts to the British crown, and the proceedings of Governor Sir William Winniett, Lord Grey proceeds:—

"It does not appear to me that the people of this country ought to be called upon to pay for the cost of extensive schemes of internal improvement in Africa. Experience shows that, if the government of the day is allowed to draw at its discretion upon Parliamentary grants for such schemes, they are too apt to be prosecuted without a due regard to economy, or to that caution which is necessary for their ultimate success. I have always believed that if Parliament had originally been less liberal in its pecuniary assistance, the philanthropic objects contemplated in the formation of the colony of Sierra Leone would probably have been more perfectly attained. Parliament is, I think, right, to be very sparing in its grants for purposes of this kind, not merely for the sake of avoiding undue demands upon the people of this country, but also because the surest test of the soundness of measures for the improvement of an uncivilized people, is that they should be self-supporting; and great advantage arises from throwing those who are to carry plans of this kind into effect upon their own resources. The people also, for whose benefit such measures are attempted, are rendered more sensible of their value when the pecuniary means required for their adoption are furnished by themselves."

"For these reasons, I considered myself bound to adhere to the rule of not proposing to my colleagues, that Parliament should be asked to increase the usual grants for the civil establishments on the West Coast of Africa; and though I was most anxious for the adoption of measures of improvement, which could not be accomplished without considerable expense, I thought it right, in this part of the African continent as well as in Natal, to proceed with these measures only, as their cost could be provided for by means of local resources. Hence it was an object of great importance to raise a revenue in the country itself; and two modes of doing so suggested themselves: one was the imposition of very moderate duties on the import of certain articles, and particularly spirits; the other was, to induce the people of the protected territory to consent to the imposition of some sort of direct taxation, for objects of which the benefit could be clearly explained to them."

"The first of these resources could not be made available, in consequence of the refusal of the Dutch government to concur in the imposition of any new duties of the kind proposed. The kingdom of Holland possesses forts on this coast close to our own, through which a part of the trade of the district is carried on; it is obvious therefore that, unless goods imported to these places should be subject to the same burden, the imposition of duties on goods imported through the British forts would have no other effect but that of driving the trade away from the latter, to places where no such charges on importation would be made. It was consequently necessary to look to some kind of direct taxation, as the only mode of raising the revenue which was required, and as being also one which, for the reasons I have so fully stated in former letters, possessed some special advantages. But the difficulty was how to impose any such taxation, in the absence of any regularly constituted government for the whole territory. It clearly could only be done by the general consent of the chiefs and people; and I had many conversations with Sir William Winniett, the last time he was in England upon leave of absence, and after his death with his successor, Major Hill, as to the most likely means of obtaining this general assent. The subject was not one which admitted of precise instructions being given to the governor as to the measures he should take; these it was necessary to leave to be determined by his own judgment on the spot, after having explained the object in view and made the suggestions which occurred to me."

"The premature and lamented death of Sir William Winniett prevented him from taking any steps of importance, in furtherance of the design of which the execution had been entrusted to him; but I have learned with great satisfaction since we retired from office, that his successor, Major Hill, has given proof both of the ability which I did not doubt that he possessed, and of how well he had entered into the policy on which he had been instructed to act, by inducing the chiefs of the Gold Coast to agree to the imposition of such a tax as I had contemplated. Knowing the deep interest I take in the subject, Major Hill was good enough to write me a private letter after he had received an account of the change of government in February last, in which he informed me that he had succeeded in inducing the chiefs and people throughout the countries under British protection, to agree to a poll-tax of one shilling per head for each man, woman, and child, by which he calculates that a revenue of 29,000*l.* a year will be obtained, to be expended in extending the judicial system, educating the children, affording increased medical aid to the population, opening and improving the internal communications, and other measures of utility. Considering that the whole annual income derived from the votes of Parliament and from all other sources, applicable to measures of improvement and the expenses of the civil government, has hitherto fallen short of 6000*l.* it is obvious that the adoption of a measure by which the funds available for these purposes will be so largely increased, is calculated to accelerate very much the march of improvement. I cannot but regard with great satisfaction the success which, in

three different countries so widely removed from each other as Ceylon, Natal, and the Gold Coast, has thus far attended the experiment of imposing direct taxation on an uncivilized population, with a view to their improvement. The experiment is a novel one in modern colonial administration, and is the practical realization of views which I was led to form more than twenty years ago when Under-Secretary of State, and on which at that time I earnestly, but in vain, recommended that the measure for the abolition of slavery should be founded.

"But even the imposition of the tax I have mentioned is of less importance, and less full of promise for the future, than the steps which have been taken in order to obtain an authority for its collection, which should be regarded by the people as binding upon them. For this purpose, and with a view to future legislation, the governor thought it advisable to form the native chiefs, with his council and himself, into a Legislative Assembly, reserving the power to the governor to assemble, prorogue, and dissolve this meeting at pleasure. On the 19th of April last, Major Hill had a general meeting of the kings and chiefs of the protected territory at Cape Coast Castle, when they unanimously agreed to resolutions by which the authority of the new Assembly was recognised and its constitution settled.

"I have had no hesitation in thus stating the substance of the information I have received from Major Hill, for, though it was conveyed to me in a private letter, the proceedings he describes were essentially of a public character, and necessarily known to every person on the coast. I must add that I am much gratified by learning that a design which I had so long entertained, and in effecting which there were so many difficulties, has been thus successfully accomplished by Major Hill. I am persuaded I do not overrate the importance of the establishment of this rude Negro Parliament, when I say, that I believe it has converted a number of barbarous tribes, possessing nothing which deserves the name of a government, into a nation, with a regularly organized authority, and institutions simple and unpretending, but suited to the actual state of society, and containing within themselves all that is necessary for their future development, so that they may meet the growing wants of an advancing civilization."

Of the other settlements on the western coast of Africa similar encouraging reports are given, and there is no doubt that the time is now not far distant when this country will see the fruit of the noble and persevering efforts it has made for rendering these stations serviceable in diffusing Christianity, civilization, and commerce, among the degraded inhabitants of that great continent. The recently established line of steam communication between England and the various settlements and trading ports on the western coast will hasten this desired change. On the Gambia river there are already indications of a vast commerce springing up, and if the anticipations as to the success of the cultivation of cotton in that district are well-founded, the benefit will be incalculable both to the commerce of England and the prosperity and civilization of Africa.

We are afraid to venture on any notice of the more important questions suggested by the letters on Canada, on the West Indies, and other colonies, because the discussion of these parts of the work is more directly mixed up with home politics, and because it would be impossible in a brief review to give account of the subjects of which Lord Grey at great length treats. Apart from the argumentative and political bearing of his letters, they are valuable as presenting a clear and concise statement of the present position of the colonial possessions of Great Britain, and an authentic and almost official exposition of the principles and policy of the government of the colonies. By whomsoever that govern-

ment may in future years be guided, Lord Grey has left a record of his own administration, which will stimulate to patriotic zeal an unwearied industry. The late Secretary for the Colonies may be chargeable with occasional faults of temper or errors of judgment, but his services to the country in a difficult and arduous post few will deny, and in the present work he has left a statesman-like record of his administration. In its literary aspect the book has diffuseness which makes it somewhat tiresome to those not greatly interested in the subject, and Lord Grey would have consulted his interest more by adopting greater brevity and condensation in his style. But on many points full explanations seemed to be required, and the form of epistolary statements to a sympathizing friend was not one in which the writer would study curtailment. It is a work which will be read with advantage for the information which it contains, and which will be much referred to as an authoritative record of political administration.

A Poet's Day-Dreams. By Hans Christian Andersen. Bentley.

THIS is the imaginative, perhaps we may call it the sentimental, title-page of a remarkable and really charming little volume. Every one knows its author as the best teller of children's stories of the day, the most skilful and unaffected narrator of fairy-tales and legends, and the most successful, because the most original and spiritual, writer of what may be termed poetic prose. Hans Christian Andersen is a genuine poet, although he seldom troubles himself with the mechanical details of the craft; and an artist, without ever having occasion to make use of a brush or a palette. His fancy is untroubled by suggestions of effect; while his imagination roams abroad, free as the breeze, yet neither playing truant nor escaping beyond control, but gaining strength, beauty, and originality, from an attentive observation of external nature—and spirituality, as well as earnestness, from an unhesitating faith in the good that lurks in all created things. Nothing, in short, can be more refined and simple than the poetry which he throws around the most ordinary realities of every-day life, or more strikingly vivid and beautiful than the descriptions of natural scenery, in which he now and then appears to indulge his memory, while he delights his readers: yet the former is never common-place, nor the latter exaggerated or untruthful.

In the little volume before us the peculiarity and scope of Andersen's genius are well illustrated. It is full of the gentle images, and quiet calm reflections, which might be expected to fill the head and heart of a poet, or rather of such a poet as our author, simply and touchingly expressed; and if there is occasionally a want of power, we are never annoyed by its affectation. To a superficial reader, the deep moral truths which lie at the root and are the burden of the 'Day-Dreams,' or of the reflections to which they give rise, may not be immediately apparent; and we are disposed to look upon the present work as less adapted for general perusal, certainly less fitted for children, than many of Andersen's other fictitious stories. There is, if we may repeat an objection already made to some of the works of this writer, "too much meaning" and too little narrative in every part of it. We miss the dry humour and

the lively jest—the sprightly fairy and the knavish imp; and often rise, pleased with the simple beauty of the tale, but puzzled to discover the moral which its writer intended it should convey. We know that there is one, and have an indefinite, or rather a confused idea of it; but this is not the effect which should be produced by any author who is anxious, as well as capable, of translating into the minds of others the treasures with which his own intellect is stored. Neither an allegory nor a moral should be so obscure or concealed as to require any very extraordinary mental exertion to detect. We do not mean to say that this is the case with all, or with even the greater portion of the contents of the present book. We mention it, however, rather to prevent disappointment to the reader of the first few sketches, than from any desire to find fault with productions of so amiable and valued an instructor as our gaunt Danish friend.

In most of the 'Day-Dreams' we are introduced to the same world of plants and animated creatures, with which the charming creations of Andersen's mind are generally peopled. We are made to lend an attentive ear to the complaints of an apple-blossom, the vagaries of a pea, and the fortunes of a leaf,—to sympathise with the loves of a sparrow,—to wonder at the wisdom and gravity of a raven,—to smile over the sweet innocence of childhood,—and to hearken to the plaintive tones of age, as in some sad or meditative hour the hidden thoughts of past years rise in the memory, suggesting contrasts, painful as well as joyous, with the present, and filling the heart with thankfulness for the bright rays which a kind Providence has shed across the path of human life.

Here is indeed "a picture," which we cannot do better than exhibit to our readers as strikingly characteristic of the genius of the artist:—

"THE OLD MAID.

"Out on the green ramparts that surround the city of Copenhagen stands a large red building with numerous windows, in which may be observed balsams and southernwood growing; there is a look of poverty about the place; it is a home for those who are poverty-stricken; it is that institution for infirm old people—'Wartou.'

"Look!—up standing against yon low window an old woman is leaning. She plucks the withered leaves from the balsam, and gazes out upon the green ramparts, where sprightly children are rolling about in their joyous play. Whither are her thoughts wandering? The drama of life is standing before her mind.

"These children of the poor—how happily they are playing! what rosy cheeks! what sparkling eyes! but what wretched shoes and stockings they have on! They dance on the green turf there, where the old legend tells that many, many years ago, when the ground in that spot sunk in, an unfortunate child had been swallowed up, with her flowers and toys, by the earth—precipitated into an open grave. It was walled up, and from that time the mound became solid, and was soon covered with a beautiful green sward. The children did not know the story, else they might have fancied that they heard the poor little victim crying beneath the ground, and the dew-drops on the grass might have seemed to them her scalding tears.

"They knew not the story of that King of Denmark, who, when the enemy lay outside, rode past this place, and swore that he would die at his post. Then came the matrons and the maidens from the city, and threw boiling water down on the foe, who—clad, though they knew it not, in their grave-clothes—were crawling, in the midst of the snow, up the outside of the ramparts.

"The children of the poor gambolled on merrily.

"Laugh on, thou little girl! womanhood is coming soon; that important day is coming, when thou shalt walk hand-in-hand with thy companions, dressed in the white muslin which has cost thy mother so much, to take upon thyself, in the house of God, the vows that were uttered for thee at thy baptism."

"Years will bring with them many dark days, but they will also bring the bright anticipations of youth. Thou shalt love; yet scarcely wilt thou know it. Thou wilt meet him; thou wilt wander with him upon the ramparts in the early spring, when all the church bells are ringing in the great Fast-day. At that time there are no violets to be found, but near the old place of Rosenberg; there stands a conspicuous tree, more remarkable than any other upon the rampart, it is ever the first to put forth the fresh young buds; there ye wilt loiter. Every succeeding year that tree buds afresh; so, alas! does not the human heart; upon it frown many darker clouds than ever lower over the natural horizon. Poor child! Perhaps also he who should be thy bridegroom may be called to sleep in the narrow coffin; and then thou mayest become a poor old maid!"

"From the windows of Wartou thou mayest gaze through the balsams out upon the children at play, and mayest see, in the probable fate of some of them, a reflection of thine own history."

"Such was the drama of life that started up before the mental vision of the old maid, as she looked upon the ramparts where the sun was shining, and the rosy children were playing, free, thoughtless, and happy, as the birds that winged their way amidst the elastic fields of air. A poet might make a heart-stirring tale from her reverie; but the old maid, she had only to remain at Wartou!"

In conclusion, we may compliment the translator on having fairly caught the spirit of the poet, whose 'Day-Dreams' are now submitted to the public in their English dress.

Discoveries in the Ruins of Nineveh and Babylon. By Austen H. Layard, M.P. Murray.

(Second Notice.)

THE neighbourhood of Arban and the banks of the Khabour did not yield much to attract Dr. Layard's attention, the sculptures of which the Arabs had spoken so much appearing, on examination, of little interest when compared with those of Nimroud and Kouyunjik. Abundance of relics were, indeed, found, the genuine products of Assyrian art, and among them a pair of human-headed bulls, a lion, and a bas-relief, all in limestone. The bulls and lion, it may be remarked, were much smaller than those found in the other Assyrian edifices, and exhibited an angular treatment and an Archaic feeling, conveying the impression of remote antiquity. Dr. Layard happily observes, that they seemed to bear the same relation to the more delicately finished and highly ornamented sculptures of Nimroud, that the earliest remains of Greek art do to the exquisite monuments of Phidias or Praxiteles. Several scarabæi were also obtained during the excavations at Arban, some bearing the name of Thothmes III., the great king of the eighteenth Egyptian dynasty. The site the ruins occupy is one of deep interest to every student of the Bible. To the banks of the Chebar were transported, by the Assyrian king, the captive Samaritans, and on the banks of the same stream 'the heavens were opened' to Ezekiel, who there 'saw visions of God,' and spake his prophecies to his brother exiles. Many interesting details are given by Dr. Layard of the Bedouin race, with whom he lived on the banks of the

Khabour, and his pages are interspersed with more than one amusing anecdote. Thus, he tells a good story of the reply which one of the Bedouin chiefs made to his doctor, who had questioned the Arab as to the remedies usual when a man could not sleep, and had asked what they did in such a case. 'Do!' answered the sheikh, 'why, we make use of him, and set him to watch the camels.' Their surgery is very severe: thus, rheumatism is treated with actual cautery; a red-hot iron being applied to the part affected. Some of the notices of his fellow-travellers are equally characteristic. Thus, speaking of Mijwell, a young Bedouin, who, in company with Dr. Layard, had visited one of the neighbouring tribes, he says—

"Mijwell, during our visit, had been seated in a corner, his eyes wandering from the tent and its furniture to the horses and mares picketed without, and to the flocks pasturing around. He cast, every now and then, significant glances towards me, which said plainly enough, 'all this ought to belong to the Bedouins. These people and the property are made for *ghazous*.' As we rode away I accused him of evil intentions. 'Billah, ya Beji!' said he, 'there is, indeed, enough to make a man's heart grow white with envy; but I have now eaten his bread under your shadow, and should, even his stick, wherewith he drives his camel, fall into my hand, I would send it to him.'"

Another journey which Dr. Layard made during the spring of this year (1850), was calculated to produce more melancholy feelings than pleasure. The reader will doubtless remember the visits paid by Dr. Layard, in 1846, to the Chaldean Christians in the Kurdistan mountains, which formed so interesting an episode in his former volumes. He found them then suffering from the oppression of the Kurd tribes, with a general attack from the most lawless and cruel of their chieftains impending over them. That attack was made shortly subsequent to that visit, and the narrative of his present journey, extended on this occasion as far as Wan, in order that he might examine the inscriptions copied by the unfortunate Schultz, is full of painful descriptions of the unfortunate people, who appear to have survived the massacres of Bedr Khan, the Kurd, only to be robbed, even to their clothes, by their present Turkish protectors. It is not easy to trace, even now, the cause of all these massacres; yet it would seem that differences among the Christians themselves have contributed to increase, if they have not in some degree produced, them. Accounts vary; yet so far as we can judge, we are compelled, with regret, to differ from the view taken by Dr. Layard, and to decline acquiescing in his censure of Mr. Badger, who in his work on the 'Nestorians and their Rituals,' has clearly, we think, indicated one cause of the unhappy dissensions in Kurdistan. Mr. Badger distinctly charges the American Independent missionaries with asserting that their faith was the same as that of the Church of England, with the object, we may naturally presume, of obtaining greater influence with the native Christians. If this be so, we need hardly wonder that the acts of these missionaries should, as Dr. Layard himself has stated ('Nineveh and its Remains,' vol. i. p. 178), have caused much jealousy and suspicion to the Kurds. Still less can we be surprised that Mar Shamoun, the Patriarch, should have felt little inclined to listen to Dr. Layard's defence of men, whose regard for "the remains of a primitive Church" had been shown by the circulation of a statement which they must have

known to be untrue. We think Dr. Layard might have reasonably expected that the acknowledged head of such a Church would shrink from any recognition of such self-appointed and irresponsible intruders, when he ascertained who they really were, and that he would reply—

"That he wished to be helped in that labour (the education of his people) by Priests of the Episcopal Church of England, whose doctrines and discipline were more in conformity with the Nestorian, than those of the American missionaries. If such men would join him, he was ready, he declared, to co-operate with them in reforming abuses and educating the community."

Having alluded to Mr. Badger, we may here remark, that his claim to have suggested the excavations at Nimroud appears to us a very idle one—as it is clear, from Dr. Layard's earlier volumes, that he had already suggested the probable success of such a labour to the French consul, M. Botta, as well as to the English ambassador at Constantinople—as early as, if not before, Mr. Badger had arrived in the country. The scenery in the Kurdistan mountains is superb, and Dr. Layard mentions one view which naturally made a deep impression upon him at the time:—

"I climbed," says he, "up a solitary rock to take the bearings of the principal peaks around us. A sight as magnificent as unexpected awaited me. Far to the north, (a note at the bottom of the page states 145 miles), and high above the dark mountain ranges, which spread like a troubled sea beneath my feet, rose one solitary cone of unspotted white, sparkling in the rays of the sun. Its form could not be mistaken, it was Mount Ararat. My Nestorian guide knew no more of this stately mountain, to him a kind of mythic land, far beyond the reach of human travel, than that it was within the territories of the Muscovites, and that the Christians called it Bashut-tama hamda."

At the village of Martha d'Umra, in the district of Jelu, Dr. Layard found in the Church a collection of China bowls and jars, of elegant form and richly coloured, suspended by cords from the roof. "I was assured," says Dr. Layard, "that they had been there time out of mind, and had been brought from the distant empire of Cathay by those early missionaries of the Chaldean Church who bore the tidings of the Gospel to the shores of the Yellow Sea." The walls of the building itself were dressed with silks of every colour and texture, and with common Manchester prints. On reaching the lower land, which he had examined in his journey thither some years since, he found all the smiling villages then described a blackened heap of ruins. In four alone, 770 persons had been slain. The nature of the present Turkish misrule is touchingly painted by the remark of one of the priests, that "the Kurds took away our lives, but the Turks take away wherewith we have to live."

During the absence of Dr. Layard in these expeditions, his workmen, both at Nimroud and Kouyunjik, had been actively employed, and the result was a large accession of interesting discoveries. It is impossible here to do more than indicate a few of them; their details will well repay a careful perusal. At Kouyunjik had been found slabs with processions of figures bearing fruit and locusts—a curious array of led horses—a remarkable representation of Dagon, the fish-god—and an invaluable collection of clay tablets, which, it is presumed, have served as Records:—at Nimroud, the remains of more than one temple—a remarkable slab with the

representations of the Evil put to flight by the Good Spirit—Ahriman by Ormuzd—a monolith, 21 feet by 16, and covered with 325 lines of writing, a portion of which has been translated by Dr. Hincks, who we see coincides with Colonel Rawlinson in the opinion, that the quarter of Nineveh now called Nimroud anciently bore the name of Calah, (see p. 354,) and many other curious monuments. It appears that cedar had been used in the construction of these edifices, for Dr. Layard states that—

"Standing one day on a distant part of the mound, I smelt the sweet smell of burning cedar. The Arab workmen, excavating in the small temple, had dug out a beam, and, the weather being cold, had at once made a fire to warm themselves. The wood was cedar, probably one of the very beams mentioned in the inscriptions as brought from the forests of Lebanon, by the king who built the edifice. After a lapse of nearly three thousand years it had retained its original fragrance."

Still later were discovered at Kouyunjik a series of historical slabs, the interest of which, whenever the inscriptions are fully interpreted, will perhaps exceed that of any others. They describe the conquest of Susiana and the capture of its capital, Susa, with indications that the scene of some of the conflicts was in the marshy lands of Lower Babylonia. Many of the slabs have been broken into pieces, and one, which was in more than 150 pieces, has been beautifully put together again at the British Museum by Mr. Sumsion and his assistants.

Dr. Layard was occupied till late in the autumn of 1850 in packing up the cases in which the slabs were to be transported to England, and then started on—not the least interesting of his journeys—a visit to Baghdad—the ruins of Babylon near Hillah—and to a portion of the marsh districts of Lower Babylonia. To the student of history it would not be easy to find a route more suggestive of historical memorials. Every age has left its own record on the banks of the Tigris: here you see the huge mound near Samarra, recalling the period of the greatness of the Assyrian empire—there the wide-stretching plains of Dura, the traditional spot where the golden image was set up—of the death of Julian and the shame of Jovian; here you pass Teerit, the birth-place of Saladin, the greatest of the Ayub conquerors and the terror of the Crusading hosts; then the ruins of the palaces of the last of the Persian kings, and of the earliest Khalifs, and Kadesiah, the scene of the great battle which gave to the hordes of Arabia the dominion of the Eastern world. Approaching Baghdad—

"The Tigris becomes wider and wider, and the stream almost motionless. Circular boats, of reeds coated with bitumen, skim over the water. Horsemen and riders on white asses hurry along the river's side. Turks in flowing robes and broad turbans, Persians in high black caps and close-fitting tunics, the Bokhara pilgrim in his white head-dress and way-worn garments, the Bedouin chief in his tasselled keffieh and striped aba, Baghdad ladies with their scarlet and white draperies fretted with threads of gold, and their black horse-hair veils concealing even their wanton eyes, Persian women wrapped in their sightless garments, and Arab girls in their simple blue shirts, are all mingled together in one motley crowd. A busy stream of travellers flows without ceasing from the gates of the western suburb of Baghdad to the sacred precincts of Kathaiman."

The visit to Hillah and the ruins of Babylon, including one to the celebrated ruin of the Birs Nimroud, did not lead to many new results, though Dr. Layard was able to add

his meed of praise to the admirable description of those localities furnished five-and-thirty years ago by Mr. Rich; nor was the still further journey into the marshes of southern Babylonia so productive as might have been anticipated from the vastness of the mounds still remaining there, and the comparatively slight examination to which they had hitherto been subjected. The state of the country was such that it was impossible for any man to have done much: and we believe no man but Dr. Layard would have thought of venturing into these marshes, exposed as he was to the greatest danger from the intestine quarrels of rival tribes, or to almost certain death from the perpetual fever and malaria which float over this vast area of stagnant water. Indeed, it is clear, from his own account, that from the last cause he had a very narrow escape. Thus he states that—

"The dampness of the soil upon which my tent was pitched, and the unwholesome air of the surrounding marshes, brought on a severe attack of pleurisy and fever. I was soon unable to leave my bed, and was reduced at length to a state of extreme weakness. Fortunately it occurred to me to use a blistering fluid given to me for an injured horse, or I should, probably, not again have left the Afaij swamps."

Yet, in this sinking state, his courage did not fail him; with some difficulty he persuaded the friendly chieftain with whom he was staying to allow him to undertake the journey back to Baghdad. At the close of his first day's ride he reached a small hamlet, whose inhabitants at first refused to admit so large a party lest they should have been enemies:—

"I could hardly remain in my saddle," he concludes, "until their fears were set at rest, and we were admitted within the enclosure. At length I tottered into a wretched hovel, thick with smoke, and sank down exhausted, after a ride of fourteen hours, and a fortnight's complete abstinence from food."

We here take our leave of Dr. Layard and his most valuable and interesting volume, with one only regret, that the publisher should have thought it advisable to confine within one single cover a mass of information which would have been much more conveniently read in two, and that so poor and unequal a wood-cutter should have been selected as the feeble exponent of the excellent drawings with which the work has been enriched by Mr. Scharf. In more than one instance it would not be easy for any one acquainted with the original monument to recognise it again in the engraving which has been inserted. In conclusion, we have only to remark, with regard to the inscriptions, that it now would seem that an effectual process of decipherment has been applied to them, and that the results as yet obtained are, upon the whole, satisfactory. And if, as would also appear to be the case, some jealousy has been allowed to arise between the rival discoverers, Colonel Rawlinson and Dr. Hincks, we think the Irish scholar may be well content with the willing testimony Colonel Rawlinson has ever paid to him, for a sagacity which (to use the Colonel's own words) "has very frequently rendered him independent of data." Nor need Dr. Hincks be surprised if, with no disparagement of his abilities, the world should sometimes think that the notices Colonel Rawlinson has contributed to the Asiatic and other societies during his residence in England, together with the analysis and alphabet which the Colonel has published, now a year and a quarter since,

in the 'Asiatic Journal,' may have in some slight degree facilitated the researches lately published in the Irish 'Transactions.' The process of deciphering inscriptions, the original language of which is very partially known, must be in great measure tentative: here a ray of light will appear, only to be darkened again by the recognition of some new monument; and no sensible student will be inclined to quarrel with the changing results at which either Rawlinson or Hincks may arrive, but will rejoice at a generous rivalry whose end is Truth.

Amabel; or, the Victory of Love. By Mary Elizabeth Wormeley. 3 vols. Smith, Elder, and Co.

THE story of 'Amabel' is not skilfully put together, and the writer is deficient in the art of producing dramatic effect, either in separate scenes, or in the general effect of the whole narrative. But the book is far superior to most of the novels of the day in its moral tone and in its literary style. In abundance in sensible remarks, excellent reflections, and striking descriptions, so that detached extracts would give a higher idea of the work than its interest as a mere tale would indicate.

The style of the author is therefore, we think, better adapted for other kinds of composition than novel writing. At the same time, a story is the easiest way of introducing the sentiments and scenes which the author knows well how to present, and many will read remarks in a novel which they would not attend to in a didactic or descriptive book. The story traces part of the life of Amabel de Karnac, the daughter of a French Viscount and *émigré*. The Viscount gained his livelihood as a teacher at Blackheath, and married one of his pupils, supposed to be rich, but whose fortune, it turned out, could not be touched till she was twenty-one, and her father left her to suffer the penalty of her marrying without his consent. M. de Karnac's sister Louise meanwhile marries Mr. Sibbes, a wealthy merchant at Deptford, the Viscount, notwithstanding his aristocratic pride, being induced to hail the match as a relief from the difficulties in which the family was placed. The Viscount is got rid of early in the story by being run down in a boat by a collier passing up the river. Madame de Karnac marries afterwards a gallant Captain Talbot of the royal navy. The orphan Amabel is left at Deptford in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Sibbes. Poor Louise being in delicate health they go to live at Malta, where Amabel's aunt dies, and she is left alone with Mr. Sibbes. As she grows up she is brought in contact with various persons, to whom she forms different kinds of attachment. A kind, but eccentric physician, Dr. Glascock, takes a great charge of 'Bella,' and for some years is her chief friend and instructor. Gradually he manifests a more tender feeling for her; but she only looks to him as a kind friend and counsellor. A young French naval officer, Felix Guiscard, a Breton like to the old Viscount de Karnac, is brought to Valetta as a prisoner-of-war. With him Bella meets, and they form a warm attachment. At length Felix is released, and returns to service. Mr. Sibbes and Amabel leave Malta in an English ship. Captain Warner falls in love with her, and the greater part of the story relates to the history of his attachment, which ended in their marriage, the death of Felix being reported. Of this there after-

wards arose some uncertainty, and the conflict of passion caused by her first love, and the struggles of duty to her husband, form the chief interest of the tale. Captain Warner grows tired of her, and she is thrown into various temptations in England. In tracing the workings of a woman's heart under such circumstances the author's power and feeling are best shown. Without giving the incidents of the history, it is enough to say that her heroine is made to illustrate the moral of the novel, to wit, the victory of love as a principle as contrasted with love as a passion, in keeping Amabel in the path of rectitude and ultimate happiness. Her life meanwhile is one of trial and vicissitude, in describing which the interest of the book is kept up. We give a few detached passages which display the author's style in those points in which she most excels. We first give the picture of Amabel when yet young, and when the cares of life had not begun to vex her:—

"A stranger would at once have pronounced Amabel a Maltese, for her dress, all black, was of the fashion of the isle; yet an accurate observer would have hesitated to assign that beautifully rounded, speaking face, to the daughter of a people of confessedly African extraction: though her hair was very dark, and her eyes of a rich brown hue. At times, a shade of sadness quenched the sunshine of her beauty: it was always full of thought, the mirror of the soul; but smiles and dimples were its natural expression. The cares of life had not yet fallen upon one of the most free and natural of God's creatures; but her mind had lately caught a vision of existence, and she shrank shuddering from the realities of life, when she reflected that she too might be called on to struggle and endure.

"With no one to repress the natural expansion and free expansion of her nature, she had, till recently, been infinitely happy; though the careful hand of discipline was wanting to teach her, in these days of early girlhood when life was lavish of the gifts it flung around her, now to store up the materials from whence to fashion permanent felicity, when the dark days of her destiny should come, in which she should say of the things that now delighted her,—'I have no pleasure in them.'

"The child gathers flowers in the sunshine, but he weaves them into garlands wherewith he crowns himself when sitting in the shade.

"The best attainments are made from inward impulse," says the lamented Margaret Fuller, in her papers on Literature and Art; 'but it does not follow that outward discipline of any liberality will impair grace or strength; and it is impossible for any mind fully or harmoniously to ascertain its own wants without being made to rescind from some strong outward pressure.'

"Amabel was but at that age when childhood is imperceptibly merged in womanhood: that age when a tender and judicious mother, relying on the effects already wrought by the loving discipline of early days, will exert her influence rather than her authority; when the human soul, if gifted with any powers of reflection, stands bewildered with the responsibilities fast opening before it; when, ceasing to live for self, we begin to carry forth the hoarded love of infancy upon the service of others; when human life seems a dark problem; when the spirit, fearless in its inexperience, sometimes longs to try its powers; when the philosophic observer watches the unfolding of the character; and when the parent and true friend lay up before the throne of God their prayers in store for the young creature whom they would fain hold back a short time longer from the world in which she pants to share.

"Sixteen!—the poet's 'sweet sixteen!' We protest against the bard as an authority. It is the most important era in a young girl's life; and to many, we are certain, the least happy. She struggles with her position. She finds life incomprehensible. New duties are rudely thrust upon her. She has to achieve consideration, even in the domestic circle. She commits follies, which long

wept over will influence her character—faults, which appear to others and herself an earnest of future error. She is restless and unhappy. The period of life (even with all the spring-tide hopes of an opening destiny before her) that a wise woman would least willingly take back again would be the poet's 'sweet sixteen!'

The following passage exhibits the author's power in describing scenery:—

"It was a beautiful May evening: the north-east breeze was gently breathing odours from the flowery shores of Sicily, where gloomy Dis seized his unwilling bride. It was the commencement of the Maltese summer, but as yet the glare reflected from the stone walls and shadeless plains of the gray rock was not intolerable. The temperature of Valetta itself is almost always equable, and at that pleasant spot, near the palace of the former Grand Inquisitor, not far from which Dr. Glascock's country residence was built, near the centre of the southern shore of the island, the heat was scarcely greater than that of an English spring. The landscape that presented itself was not altogether dissimilar to that of certain of our cultivated districts.

"At the south-west portion of the island is a double line of cliffs; the outer one rising from the sea, and sloping inward, till the freestone wall of the second line abruptly flanks the valley. It was upon this cultivated slope, upon its lower and eastern end, and looking up the hollow formed by the rocky hills that almost bisect Malta (dividing it into two nearly equal portions; the eastern thickly populated, and the western a Petrea), that Dr. Glascock had erected his small country house, and surrounded it with orange-trees. The road to this retreat led through the prettiest and most cultivated district in all Malta. The plains and gentle declivities were rich with crops of grain and fodder, amongst which fields of *sulla*, gay with large red flowers, were particularly beautiful and conspicuous. All were surrounded by stone walls, coeval with the fields' creation. The peasant, in making a grooved bed for the two or three feet thickness of earth scraped from the fissures of the rocks, or brought occasionally from Sicily, removed large fragments of rock, and made his wall of them. 'How admirable is God's providence!' cries a pious Maltese writer, 'no sooner is a field formed, than on that very spot lie the materials to raise around it the defence that it requires!'

"The steep acclivities of the hill-sides presented a succession of terraces, which, rising rapidly one above the other, suggested to the beholder the idea of seats in a vast amphitheatre, whilst the curved lines of the opposite hills strengthened the impression. These little terraces were prettily planted with fruit trees, especially the apple and the vine, which being trained together, intermingled their branches; for, having been carefully pruned and kept low, few even of the apple-trees were higher than mere shrubs. In full bloom at the time, and covering so considerable an extent of ground, they presented a singular appearance, broken as the cultivation was at intervals, by ridges of gray limestone; whilst on the right lay the lovely valley of Bochetto, crowned with its quadrangular castle, a spot which is now laid out in groves of fruit trees, oranges, lemons, or pomegranates, and (here only) the dark olive, once, it is supposed, the indigenous product of the isle.

"Winding between the hill slopes to the one side and the entrance to the valley, is the hard white road, running southward from Valetta, and passing through Citta Vecchia. This, the ancient capital of the island, now silent and deserted like an enchanted city, in 1809 still retained some portion of its splendour; and was then the residence on *parole* of a small number of French officers, who later in the war well nigh fell victims to the fanaticism and resentment of the lower orders.

"It was at the close of the Sunday afternoon, mentioned in the last chapter of our story, that Captain Felix Guiscard rode at full speed to Ranaiah."

The reflections on married happiness would please the cynical and sceptical Thackeray:—

"Yet who knows, if she had married as she desired and expected, how long this loving happiness would have endured? Though her beloved and herself, for a few months or a few years, might have merged their individualities together so as to be but of one heart and of one mind; that period in married life would have come to them, as it comes to all, when difference of character, of views, of tastes, must have jarred upon their happiness: when each would have discovered the other was not perfect; when allowances on each side would have been called for; when, for the first time, must have been entertained by each, a vague feeling of the possibility of future disunion and unhappiness. Was their love of such a nature as to stand firm, and come purified, triumphant, and enlarged out of these trials? Was it so founded as to be likely to gather principle in hours of happiness, wherewith it might withstand the threatening aspect of a darker day?"

The dialogues are not well managed, and in the course of the tale the author has recourse to many commonplace mechanisms, such as writers of fiction are in the habit of employing; but when the reader is fretted by absurdities or improbabilities in the stage personages or scenery, some quiet and beautiful piece of writing puts him again in good humour with the author. Of such kind is the description of the English village, with the secluded cottage where Amabel is found at the opening of the third part of the story.

"Take the train from London, reader, if you wish to visit our localities, and let it put you out at a lone station in the midst of that desolate heath country through which the old high road to Portsmouth used to run—the wilderness of moorland which lies upon the borders of Hampshire and Surrey. You may take a postchaise at this place, if you will, either at the staring hotel of the station, or at a little country inn a couple of hundred yards to the right of it, with the sign of 'Tumble-down-Dick,' a name not uncommon with inns in that vicinity, given doubtless in derision of the fall of Richard Cromwell.

"Your chaise will carry you some dozen miles over the most barren country your eyes have ever lighted on: not a tree, not a green herb, not a house or rill of water. In September, when the purple heath is in full blossom, this moorland is extremely beautiful, but at all other seasons of the year, it lies as far as the eye can reach, a brown and sombre mass, stretching out to the horizon; undulated, it is true, but unrelieved by any change of tint, save where the fleeting clouds cast their shadows upon its surface.

"Passing at length through a straggling country town, stretch your head out of the window, and yonder, on your left hand, at the edge of the dun moorland, catch a glimpse of that white mansion. . . . You go on your way, pondering sad thoughts of man's faithlessness and cruelty, and thinking over one of the mysteries of general interest which have been inherited by the men of this generation. You have seen the house celebrated for the loves of a secretary and a waiting-woman—of Swift and Stella.

"Travel on—and by-and-by a park wall skirts the moorland. On—and where three ways appear to meet, or rather where the public road diverges into three mere cart tracks, your carriage sets you down before what is a high brick wall, but looks a hedge of ivy. You enter through a doorway fashioned in a wall, and find yourself walking up a straight, paved path, to a dull and sombre Elizabethan cottage. Pass through its hall; stand on the lawn beneath its windows. The scene has changed. You are at the edge of the moorland: the long, barren waste lies out of sight, behind the cottage. You are on an elevation, looking down upon a cultivated valley. At your feet winds a tortuous and tiny river. Yonder is the village steeple crowned with dark ivy, peeping coyly through the trees. All around is fertility and cultivation; in the distance stretch wild hilly tracts of the blue moorland. Flowers breathe out their

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little life beside your feet. The very aspect of the house is not the same: on the side you entered it was sombre as a castle; on the lower side a rustic porch gives, to what was, at the time of which we write, a very small and inconvenient dwelling—an air of refinement, taste, and care."

We have spoken freely of the faults of the work, and given specimens of its better parts. The general sentiments of the author most readers will approve, but we confess we do not clearly see the distinction which is so frequently referred to between love as a principle and love as a passion. The difference must chiefly depend on the objects loved, and on the way they are loved, not on the feeling itself. The moral of the tale is therefore somewhat obscure.

The Odes of Horace, translated into Unrhymed Metres, with Introductions and Notes. By F. W. Newman, Professor of Latin, University College, London. John Chapman.

If we are without a good English 'Horace' it is certainly from no want of attempts to produce it. None of the classics has gone through more editions. Dr. Douglas, of "the soft obstetric hand," had upwards of 400 in his library in the days of Pope. What a similar collection in the present day might amount to it would be difficult to estimate. The English translations alone would form a library, and yet not one of them approaches the standard of a classic. The volume now before us is as far from this as its predecessors, although the work of a ripe scholar, who both thinks and writes vigorously. It is based upon a mistake—the idea that unrhymed metres destitute of a natural cadence will be accepted by the English reader. Mr. Newman professes to have written, not for the classical scholar, but for those who have no knowledge whatever of ancient languages or literature, except what has been gained by reading Homer in a translation; and his object has been "to give to the reader not only a knowledge of the substance, but a feeling of the form of thought, and a right conception of the tone of mind" of his author. We infer as much, at least, from his statement, that this can be done by a translator, presuming that he would not otherwise have put forth this version of an author so notoriously difficult to transfer to another language. Mr. Newman argues, with much truth, that "hitherto our poetical translators have failed in general, not so much from want of talent or learning, as from aiming to produce poems in *modern style*, through an excessive fear that a modern reader will endure nothing else;" and he makes the present experiment to test whether Englishmen can be induced to read poems in new metres. He has discarded rhyme, "not from undervaluing that elegant ornament, but because the attempts of the ablest versifiers convince him that it is impossible to translate a classical poet into English rhyming metre without a great sacrifice of the poet himself, and a most undesirable intrusion of that which is not the poet's." The complaint is an old one; neither is the remedy new. Others have made the same experiment as Mr. Newman—in particular Professor Blackie of Edinburgh, who has produced many admirable unrhymed translations of Horace. But unfortunately all unrhymed versions we have seen, the present included, fall into the same error, both of sacrificing much of the poet, and intruding upon him much that is not his own, while they

want that grace, little it may be, yet still something, which results from a natural musical cadence, and the terseness necessitated by the forms of rhyming verse. The attempt to reproduce in English a purely ancient style is hopeless. A modern air will suffuse in some degree any version, however skilfully wrought, for the words which must be used suggest modern associations, and the utmost that can be done is to strike a tone as nearly analogous as possible to that of the original. To render a Roman poet literally in respect of his words is, in fact, to render him most unliterally in respect of his spirit. You may not miss the strict meaning of each individual phrase, yet shall the essence of the poetry which lies in their combination evaporate in the transfer. The skill of the translator will not be shown in rendering his original in lines of corresponding length, or in similar turns of phrase, but in fully expressing the meaning and spirit in verse relatively as concise and suggestive, and at the same time not less melodious to a native ear. Our language has large capabilities for unrhymed metre, but then the cadence must be rhythmical, and have a natural music in it when read in a natural and unforced manner, and the rhythms selected must be in accordance with the subject and the manner of its treatment. Mr. Newman's version fulfils neither of these conditions. Verse which needs the index of accents to its rhythm is no verse at all. Unless the words themselves indicate the proper reading, the writer may rest assured that he has missed the primary condition of English verse. Most especially must this be so in unrhymed metre; for there everything depends on a musical collocation of syllables, which may be read off easily, and a division of lines so harmonious that the absence of rhyme shall not be felt. Milton's translation of Horace's 'Ode to Pyrrha,' although far from perfect, is a good specimen of what may be done in this way. Still it is more than doubtful whether a version of all his Odes, equally well rendered in unrhymed verse, would be endurable to English ears.

Most certainly the present version will never fulfil its purpose. Its metres are without music; its language wants both delicacy and suggestiveness. While, in fact, it is merely prose cut into lines of a certain length, it wants the exactness and fidelity of a prose version. It is only reasonable, for example, to expect, in a translation unfettered by rhyme, all the local colouring which is given by the proper names, and to require that these shall neither be omitted nor others introduced which learning may supply, but which are not even suggested by the original. But at the very outset of the book the absence of this feature strikes us. Thus Mr. Newman opens the Ode to Mæcenæ, usually printed as the first of the first book, as follows:—

"Oh my bulwark and sweet ornament,
Sprung from royalty of Lydian eld!"

in which the directness and force of Horace's opening line—

"Mæcenæ, atavis editæ regibus"—

is lost by dropping the name, and expanding the rest into a feeble pleonasm. The book abounds in similar examples. In the same Ode we find many renderings as bald as the sorriest rhymers were ever driven, under the necessities of longs and shorts, to adopt; thus—

"Him who joys his fathers' land to cleave,
Spade in hand, him not could Attalus
Win by gilded terms, with Cyprian plank
Fearfully Myrtoan seas to plough."

Two lines further on, "*mercator*" is translated "skipper," and *indocilis pauperiam pati*—"badly trained to suffer penury." How far from literal, and yet how unpoetical Mr. Newman can be, his version of the

"Si neque tibias
Euterpe cohibet, nec Polyhymnia
Lesboum refugit tendere barbiton."

of the same ode will show.

"If nor Enterpe's flutes
Stint their breath, nor Polyhymnia kind
Shuns to modulate her Lesbian harp."

We shall, however, enable our readers to judge better for themselves by quoting specimens of entire odes, one in Horace's playful, and another in his serious manner. The first is the twenty-first Ode of the Third Book:—

"TO MY COEVAL JAR OF WINE.
"Kindly jar, in Manlius' year
Born with me; whate'er thy bent,
Whether for plainings, jest, or riot,
Frantic love, or easy slumber;
"Storing—in whatever name—
Massic choice, for joyful day
Kept rightly; since Corvinus orders
Milder wines, descend and bless us!
"Thee he will not scorn uncouth,
Though in lore Socratic dipt:
For oft, they say, with potent liquor
Ancient Cato's virtue kindled.
"Thou to natures tight and close
Gentle torment dost apply:
Thou to the kind Releaser o'peast
Sages' cares and secret counsel.
"Hope and strength to anxious minds,
Horns to poor men, addest thou:
Kings' angry crests and armed soldiers
Cease beneath thy might to frighten.
"Lively lamps, and Venus blithe
(Should she deign!) and Graces loath
The knot to loose, shall shine—till morning
Scares the stars—with Thee and Liber."

Contrast this with a rhymed version, which is open to the objection of being in a modern style, but which surely conveys more of the tone of the original:—

"Oh precious crock, whose summers date
Like mine, from Manlius' consulate,
I wot not whether in your breast
Lie maudlin wail or merry jest,
Or sudden choler, or the fire
Of tipsy Love's insane desire,
Or fumes of soft caressing sleep,
Or what more potent charms you keep,
But this I know, your ripened power
Befits some choicely festive hour.
A cup peculiarly mellow
Corvinus asks; so come, old fellow,
From your time-honoured bin descend,
And let me gratefully my friend.
No churl is he, your charms to slight,
Though most intensely erudite:
For even old Cato's worth, we know,
Took from good wine a nobler glow.
"Your magic power of wit can spread
The halo round a dullard's head,
Can make the sage forget his care,
His bosom's inmost thoughts unbar,
And drown his solemn-faced pretence
Beneath your blithesome influence.
Bright hope you bring and vigour back
To minds outworn upon the rack,
And put such courage in the brain,
As makes the poor be men again,
Whom neither tyrants' wrath affrights
Nor all their bristling satellites.
"Bacchus, Venus, so that she
Bring only frank festivity,
With sister Graces in her train,
Linking close in lovely chain,
And the taper's living light,
Shall spread your treasures o'er the night,
Till Phoebus the red East unbars,
And puts to rout the trembling stars."

Mr. Newman is not more happy in his grave than in his sportive verse. The beautiful 'Hymn to the Lyric Muse' is an average specimen:—

"Him whom Thot, Melpomene!
Didst at birth with gentle eye regard;
Not the boxer's Isthmian toil
Him shall glorify, nor courser fleet
In the Achaian chariot him
Victor draw; nor on the Capitol
Conquering Mars shall him display
Proud with Delian leaves, as one whose might
Lofty-threatening kings has crush'd;
But, the rills which gush on Tibur's lap
And the groves with tresses thick
Him renown'd in Lesbian verse shall mould."

"Mid the pleasing train of bards
Rome, the queen of cities, not disdains
Mê to place: already now
Less am I by envious nibble scar'd.
O Pierian maid, whose touch
Sweetly modulates the golden lyre;
Who to fishes mute couldst grant
Swanlike melody;—the gift is thine,
That the finger of the crowd
Marks me minstrel of the Roman lyre.
Thine are all my breathings, thine
All my favour,—favour if I find."

The difficulty of rendering this ode in English rhyme is great. Apart from the terseness of the language, and the allusive suggestions, for which it is so hard to find equivalents, it is nearly impossible to divide the matter into stanzas of an appropriate measure. But is it not better to resort to a little expansion, than to fall into a style so bald and unmusical as Mr. Newman's? We offer the following as an experiment:—

"The man whom thou, bright Muse of song,
Didst at his birth regard with smiling calm,
Shall win no glory in the Isthmian throng,
From lusty wrestlers bearing off the palm,
Nor ever, reining steed of fire, shall he
In swift Achaian car roll on victoriously."

"Nor him shall warfare's stern renown,
Nor baffled menaces of mighty kings,
Bear to the Capitol with laurel crown;
But streams that kiss with gentle murmurings
Rich Tibur's vale, thick wood and mossy brake,
Him of the Æolian lyre shall worthy master make."

"At Rome, of all earth's cities queen,
Men deign to rank me in the noble press
Of poet's mark'd for eminence serene,
And now sharp envy's tooth assails me less.
Oh thou loved Muse, that temperest the swell
And modulated noise of the sweet golden shell!"

"Oh thou, who canst at will endow
Mute fish with swanlike voices soft and sweet,
'Tis all thy gift, that, as they pass me now,
Men point me to their fellows on the street,
As lord and chief of Roman minstrelsy;
Yes, that I sing and please, if I do please, is due to thee."

Although we feel bound to record an adverse opinion on Mr. Newman's merits as a translator, we most cordially recommend his volume to all who are interested in the subject for its notes, which form a valuable contribution to what has been written on men and manners at Rome in Horace's time. The lovers of Horace especially will find much in it, both in the way of fact and commentary, to gratify and instruct.

Narrative of a Mission to Central Africa performed in the Years 1850-51. By the late James Richardson. Chapman and Hall.

(Second Notice.)

THE second volume opens with Mr. Richardson's arrival at Tintalous, after having passed the most difficult and dangerous portion of the journey. In traversing the desert and uninhabited territory between Ghât and the unexplored kingdom of Aheer, the travellers were in a continual state of excitement from the fear of the freebooters of the Azgher tribes; and on entering the inhabited districts events became rather alarming:—

"In the evening, when it was nearly dusk, five mounted men made their appearance, two of them leading six empty camels. We did not like the looks of them, but they gave a tolerable account of themselves. I treated them to supper—in fact, I am obliged to feed all strangers, as well as a good number of the caravan. Of feeding these people, as of giving them presents, verily there is no end. To travel comfortably in the desert, it would be necessary to possess Fortunatus's purse or Aladdin's lamp. During the night these strange fellows disappeared, which circumstance naturally aroused our suspicions. About two in the morning the Kailouees, wishing to start early, began to bustle about in the dark, in order to collect their camels. They could not find any of them. Great was the consternation. The Tanekums instantly ran to

their drove, of which three only were missing, and ours also were found to be safe. They have driven the camels off, in order to prevent our progress, and give time to the enemy to come up."

"24th.—We naturally passed the remainder of the night in the greatest anxiety of mind, feeling sure that a crisis was now approaching. At about six in the morning, four men, mounted on mahares, came riding towards us, and drawing near, boldly summoned our escort to deliver up the Christians, with all their baggage and camels. The insolence of this small body assured us that they had some force at hand; but we boldly told them to go about their business, as we were resolved to defend ourselves to the last."

"Whilst we were parleying with them, a troop of about forty men, mounted on their fleet mahares, and equipped for war with spears, shields, and swords, came trotting rapidly over the hills, hallooing with wild cries, and challenging our caravan to battle. When the first few moments of surprise had subsided, two-thirds of our caravan, armed with matchlocks, pistols, and swords, advanced in a body, and shouted out that they accepted the challenge. This bold movement staggered the assailants, who forthwith began to waver and retire. They had evidently expected to overawe us by boasting. Our people, satisfied with the effect of their manoeuvre, retired slowly towards the encampment. Presently a small body of the enemy advanced as a deputation, demanding to parley, and declaring that they did not come to fight against people of their own faith. The remainder pretended to march and countermarch along the hills on either hand, as if to hem us in completely, but kept at a respectful distance. They saw that we were too strong for them, but called out that they would go and fetch more people."

"The conferences were now fairly opened, and we found that the hostile troop was composed of a collection of all the Sheikhs of the neighbouring districts, with their followers, and several regular bandits, countenanced by a Shereef Marabout. Our people understood at once that the affair was far more serious than they had anticipated, and began to be downhearted. They knew that they could not proceed without their camels, and from their expressions and looks I could foresee that the matter at last would have to be ended by a compromise. The enemy made various propositions, more or less agreeable to our ears. The first was simply that we, as infidels, should be given up to be put to death—an idea which, luckily, nobody seemed to consider proper or feasible. They then insisted that we should pass on no further, but should return by the way we had come—also declined. Next, they demanded that we should become Muslims—a proposition which our people refused even to mention to us. Finally, they coolly asked for half our goods and baggage,—no doubt their ultimate object. When they found that we would not agree to any of their proposals, but were determined rather to resist by the strong hand, a compromise was agreed upon. We paid them in goods to the value of three hundred and fifty reals, or about fifty pounds sterling, in order to get back our camels, and be allowed to proceed."

The travellers were, however, fortunate enough to meet with a friend in the Sultan, En-Noor, one of the great chiefs of the Kailouee tribes, who sent an escort to conduct them in safety to Tintalous, where, subsequently, the most important of the diplomatic operations of the expedition was effected:—

"We found the Sultan in company with half-a-dozen people: he received us in a very friendly manner, and really seemed on this occasion to be what he professes to be, the friend and Consul of the English. I explained to him, that we certainly had this treaty ready for him, and intended to have presented it to him on our arrival; but on account of our sufferings and the robberies committed on us, and seeing the country in a state of revolution, I had no heart to present to his highness anything from the Queen of England. However, now that

things were more settled, and as I saw there was authority in the country, I had much pleasure in proposing for his signature a treaty from my Government. At the same moment, as an incentive, I presented the sword (a small naval officer's sword, with a good deal of polished brass and gilding about it, of the value, at most, of five pounds). To my great satisfaction, his highness accepted both treaty and present with ardent manifestations of pleasure. He made me read the document in English, to hear the sound of our language; and he also desired me to leave with him an English copy. This we did, with some explanation of the contents in an Arabic letter on the back. We then took our copy in Arabic. The sword pleased him greatly, on account of its lightness, for he is an old man, not very strong; and because it glittered with gold. We wrote the maker's name in Arabic, and gave directions to have it well preserved. He inquired after Drs. Barth and Overweg, and seemed to take great interest in our welfare."

"In the midst of our conversation a lady, one of the Sultan's female relations, came, moved no doubt by curiosity, into the room. She was evidently a fine dame, a person of fashion in this Saharan capital. Her countenance, in due obedience to the requirements of *ton*, was not 'rouged up to the eyes,' but 'yellowed up to the eyes!' There cannot be a more appalling custom. Imagine a young lady, of brown-black complexion, daubed with brilliant yellow ochre! The paint covers the whole face, from the roots of the hair to the lower jaw, forming two semicircles with the upper lip. Between the eyes there are three black beauty-spots, descending perpendicularly on the bridge of the nose. The eyebrows are blackened, and joined, so as to form one immense arch across the face, under the yellow brow. Is it possible to disguise the human countenance more completely! The dark-blue cotton skirt of this lady was turned up behind over her head, so as to form a kind of hood; but underneath she wore a coloured petticoat. Generally, the women of Tintalous wear a frock, or chemise, and a piece of cotton wrapper over their head and shoulders. This wrapper, which serves as a shawl, is not unlike, in effect, the black veil worn by the Maltese women. The lady we saw at En-Noor's wore a profusion of necklaces, armlets, and anklets of metal, wood, and horn. She gazed about for some time and then went her way. After asking and receiving permission to hoist the British flag over the tents, and to fire a salute, we imitated her example. This is my first success in diplomacy! On returning we prepared for our evening's festivities, but the tempest assailing us we waited till fairer weather. At five in the evening we hoisted the British flag, and fired no less than a hundred musket discharges. I do not recollect that this ceremony was ever before performed in the desert, in Bornou or Soudan, although the union-jack certainly now flies at Mourzuk and Ghadamez, on the roofs of the consular houses."

Mr. Richardson's stay at Tintalous was long and tedious, upwards of two months, and the Sultan's exactions were rather exorbitant. The ceremonial arrangement of treaties gave rise to various reports. One morning a Tuattee native, who was known to be well acquainted with Algiers, brought in a report that Queen Victoria was in Tripoli and preparing to come and live at Ghât, and had offered to buy half Ghât. In a country, however, where nearly all the females are slaves, the idea of having a woman for a ruler was not so easily understood. On presenting his Highness En-Noor with some English and French silver coins, he admired Her Majesty's face; but his shadow, the man who generally accompanied him, said, "Oh no, the face of the woman for a Sultan is not good." "This is good," he said, pointing to the head of Louis Philippe:—

"In the afternoon I received another visit from En-Noor, who came straight into my tent, like an old friend whom I had known for twenty years."

He stopped with me at least an hour, drinking tea and smoking, chatting the while about his past history and present affairs. He reiterated again assurances of his friendship for the English and his determination to remain the ally of the Queen of England! He referred to the time when the great Bello, sultan of Sakkatou, sent his ambassador to request him (En-Noor) and all his people to subject themselves to the Fellatahs, En-Noor gave him for answer, 'I am under God, the servant of God; and shall not submit myself to you or to any one upon earth. My father, and grandfather, and great-grandfather, and all my ancestors, ruled here, and were the servants of God, and I shall follow in their steps.' The Fellatahs then tried to seduce the people, but they all said, 'We have one Sultan, that is En-Noor.' All the other authorities of Aheer followed the example and preserved their independence, the people everywhere arming themselves with whatever weapons they had in case a war should break out.

"After this narrative En-Noor spoke again of the English, and said he should send a maharee for the Queen. I gave him a fancy ring of the value of three-pence, with a mock diamond in it, which he immediately put on his finger with as much glee and pride as the gayest Parisian coquette. Yusuf and the Sfaxee being present, swore it was *diamanti*; but I am quite sure the old Sheikh understood the compliment. I also gave him a pair of bellows, a basin, and a pint bottle with a little oil in it; with all these things he was greatly delighted, continually admiring and trying the bellows. When he went out of the tent he himself carried all these articles away under his arm."

On the 2nd of November, Mr. Richardson and his party left Tintalous, accompanied by the Sultan En-Noor, with the expectation of joining the great salt caravan which annually transports large quantities of that condiment tied up in small bundles, the outer wrapper of which is a matting of strips of the leaves of the doom-palm, called by the people *kabba*. "Never," says the traveller, "was there a more picturesque cavalcade. Ladies on bullocks, children and women on donkeys, warriors on maharees, merchants on camels, the Sultan's horse harnessed going alone, with goats and their kids, sheep, foals of camels, &c., running or straggling along." On getting into the regular route, *via* Asoudee, they came up with the salt caravan; and we must here make room for the traveller's account of a Saharan Christmas-day:—

"25th.—Christmas-day! My second Christmas-day in Africa during this journey. We have nothing to make a merry day of; but we must try and cheer ourselves up by the thought that we are still spared, after passing through so many dangers, and amidst a people naturally hostile to us, and only softened by fear of the Turks, and by possession of the goods of the Government, which they have taken one way or other. Yet some of the people appear of a more kindly nature, and Overweg has experienced a little hospitality in the huts retired from the road, or sequestered in the surrounding valleys. Gracious God! make us all thankful for health and strength: may we ever praise thy protecting care of us and our mission."

"Some musicians came this morning to salute us with a little of their rough music, a drum and a clarinet. I gave them three rings and a little sugar. I have very little to bestow, and were I to be more generous, or to make an effort to give them anything like a Christmas gift, I should then have all the people upon me, begging everything I had left. Yesterday I spoke a few words to Hamma, son-in-law of En-Noor, and he immediately asked me for a turban. I had not spoken to him for several weeks, or only saluted him with a few words, in order to avoid his begging. This man has already had from me presents to the amount of fifty dollars! Thus I am cut off from all conversation with these people, and have no practice in

speaking the languages of the interior. I must try to get on better than this. Overweg, as doctor, is better off. The sick, and the people who bring the sick, must talk to him, and must receive a favour from him. And he frequently gets a few cheeses in return. The women make extraordinary propositions. The other day they offered him a slave or a bullock for a medicine to produce a child. The place of our encampment is called Bargot, which I believe is also the name of a well, near or about an hour and a half distant. I have also heard the name of Bergu. Yesterday we passed some ruins of houses, built of stone and mud. I am glad that Barth borrowed my Bible, and is reading to-day. Overweg also was the first to propose prayers on Sundays when we are staying long together in one place.

"We are now near the Hamadah, which is a journey of full four days without water. We arrive at the water on the morning only of the fifth day. I gave a Christmas-box to all the servants of the expedition, seven persons, each a cotton handkerchief and a ring."

"The musicians who saluted us this morning came from him, but they did not know it was a feast-day of Christians, and only came to pick up what they could get. I sent Madame En-Noor a piece of white loaf-sugar, and told her it was a Christmas-box. She received it with many thanks; so I have chronicled all our doings this day. I read the two first chapters of St. Luke in Arabic. We had no provisions, or anything with which we could produce the resemblance of a plum-pudding. As to roast beef, we have some bits of preserved beef, which we eat with our baseen and hamsa. Amidst so many uncertainties in Central Africa we may not see another Christmas-day. O God! whenever the time of our departure is come, may we be found relying for salvation on that Saviour, thine only-begotten Son, born on this day."

At Damerghou, Mr. Richardson and his German companions separated, never again to meet. With some apparent presentiment of his fate he pursued his way in the direction of Lake Tchad, and gives some distressing accounts of the districts traversed:—

"Many of the domestic slaves in Zinder are constantly ironed, for fear they should run away to the neighbouring towns and villages. The poor people live just like convicts. It is only when they are taken to Kuka, or to a great distance, that their irons are struck off. The report is now current in Zinder, that the Sarkee is going, in the course of seven or eight days, to razzia some neighbouring place in the direction of Daura. They say, even, that he will not scruple to razzia some of the villages of Meria if necessary; that is to say, a part of the province of Zinder. My informants observed merely, 'Oh, he must have slaves to pay his debts; and as the largest fish eat the little fish, so the great people eat the small people.' Thus the protection of Islamism is now come to nothing, and the cry is, 'To the razzia!' without mentioning even the name of Kafer or Kerdi. In the end this will retard the progress of Mahomedanism; for the blacks see that it is now no protection for them against their more powerful neighbours and their periodical razzias."

"I visited several personages this afternoon; first, the Shereef Kebir, with whom I ate some broiled fish brought from a neighbouring lake, and some fine Bilma dates, soaked in milk. I asked him how it was that the Sheikh committed to the governors or sultans of the provinces the awful power of life and death. 'Oh,' replied he, 'the Sheikh has given them this power that he might not be bothered with their reports about criminals. It is far better to finish quick with these people.' Where there are periodical razzias the sacredness of human life is unknown, and the Shereef has been, besides, many years in the camp of Abd-el-Kader, where a good deal of sanguinary work was carried on. He thought it, therefore, quite right that the Sheikh should not fatigue his sovereign conscience by deciding on the lives of criminals and other suspected persons, and that

the sooner they were hung or slaughtered the better."

"From the Shereef I passed on to the brother of the Sultan, a young man of mild manners. I entered the inner part of the house, where were the women. Verily the Zinder people have a strange love of dust, dirt, and bare mud walls. In the two or three beehive huts which I explored, there was not a single article of furniture, nor a mat to lie down upon. The brother of the Sultan was sitting by his sister, and both on the dust of the ground, without a mat. I am told, however, that they sleep on mats and skins, which are, indeed, cheap enough: two or three pence, or two or three hundred wadas, would purchase a good one. The sister of the Sultan was coloured well with indigo, the dark blue of which replaces the yellow ochre of the ladies of fashion in Aheer. This Zinder lady had also the ends of the tufts of her hair—I cannot call them curls—formed into clayey sticks of macerated indigo. For the rest, she had little clothing, her arms and bust being quite bare. All the other ladies with her were coloured in like fashion, and had their hair dressed in a similar manner."

The Sarkee executed his razzia sure enough, and came home with a string of captives to appease his creditors:—

"A cry was raised early this morning, 'The Sarkee is coming!' Every one went out eagerly to learn the truth. It turned out that a string of captives, fruits of the razzia, was coming in. There cannot be in the world—there cannot be in the whole world—a more appalling spectacle than this. My head swam as I gazed. A single horseman rode first, showing the way, and the wretched captives followed him as if they had been used to this condition all their lives. Here were naked little boys running alone, perhaps thinking themselves upon a holiday; near at hand dragged mothers with babes at their breasts; girls of various ages, some almost ripened into womanhood, others still infantine in form and appearance; old men bent two-double with age, their trembling chins verging towards the ground; their poor old heads covered with white wool; aged women tottering along, leaning upon long staffs, mere living skeletons;—such was the miscellaneous crowd that came first; and then followed the stout young men, ironed neck to neck! This was the first instalment of the black bullion of Central Africa; and as the wretched procession huddled through the gateways into the town the creditors of the Sarkee looked gloatingly on through their lazy eyes, and calculated on speedy payment."

"It is exceedingly painful to live in a place like Zinder, where almost every householder has a chained slave. The poor fellows (men and boys) cannot walk, from the manner in which the irons are put on, and when they move about are obliged to do so in little jumps."

From this point Mr. Richardson's journal seems to indicate depression of spirits. He reads Milton "all day, to divert his attention from Africa;" he laments over his getting nothing but a horse in return for five hundred pounds of Government money distributed along the route in presents. For his health he oils himself now and then with olive oil; and, lastly, he speaks with some uneasiness of the weather. "The sun burns at 4 p.m. most fiercely; I begin to be afraid of it." "Weather very troublesome to-day, blowing hot and cold in the same breath." These are the last recorded words of Mr. Richardson's journal, and sufficiently hint, says Mr. St. John, "the cause of the lamentable accident that speedily followed. Spring was advancing with its uncertain temperature in Central Africa, and the thermometer varied nearly thirty degrees between the morning and afternoon." It was about a month after this that Dr. Barth heard accidentally of the sad news of Mr. Richardson's death. From information gathered of his servants, it appeared that he

became ill on his way to Kuka, and after taking sundry strong medicines, died in the presence of his dragoman from weakness. Mr. Richardson had occupied himself a great deal in making vocabularies of the Bornouse and Soudanese languages, and these were all carefully sent home with the rest of his papers to the Foreign Office. His journal has been given with much faithfulness in the work before us, but we must call the publishers to account for not providing a better map. It is a miserable lithograph, with the route incorrectly marked, being too much to the westward, and not containing a tenth part of the localities mentioned in the narrative. Better maps of the route of this expedition have been published both here and in Berlin.

NOTICES.

The Discovery of the Jesuits' College at Clerkenwell, in March 1627-8. Edited for the Camden Society, by John Gough Nichols, F.S.A.

THE Jesuits! what scenes of craft and subtlety, of deliberate courage and self-devotion, of fixedness of purpose and religious antagonism, does this still ominous name conjure up! They are prominent pictures in England's most troublous periods; and as our mind reverts to them, we see that gallery of grim ascetic portraits by which their friends loved to commemorate their devotion and their fate, each with the characteristic accompaniments,—the palm of victory in their hands, the fatal cord about their necks, and the never-failing memorial legend, 'Pro Catholica fide suspensus et sectus.' Few persons can have looked through a portfolio of old engravings without observing these effigies of an uncompromising sect who perilled liberty and life itself in following the footsteps of Loyola. The tract before us gives, from contemporary manuscripts in the British Museum and the State Paper Office, a curious account of the Jesuits in the reign of one of England's most worthless monarchs,—James the First,—a reign in which their hopes were revived by the temporizing policy of the king, moved by a desire to form a matrimonial alliance for his son. Thus influenced, James relaxed the severe laws against the Jesuits, enacted during the rule of Elizabeth, while the efforts of the seminary priests continued unabated. It is true the evidence on the horrible Gunpowder Plot had disclosed the treasonable participation of two of this body, Garnet and Oldcorn, who paid the forfeit with their lives; but though that event had widened the breach between James and his Roman Catholic subjects, his ambitious views were still directed to the formation of an alliance for his son with either of the two great Catholic countries, and the Jesuits mustered strongly in the metropolis, then, as it is at this day, the most favourable place for the concealment of their real character and intentions. There is the best evidence of this in the particulars contained in a book published in 1624, by one Gee, a convert from the Jesuit communion, under the title of 'The Foot out of the Snare.' It states, that at that time there were dwelling or sojourning in London 263 Catholic priests, of whom more than 70 are stated to be Jesuits. England was erected into a province of the Society of Jesus in 1623, and in the following year the Pope commissioned a bishop for England, with three vicars-general, archdeacons, and other ecclesiastical officers. On the marriage of Charles with Henrietta Maria of France, the Papists raised their heads still higher, and the war which broke out encouraged their hopes. The Protestants saw with alarm their increasing boldness, and the public mind was inflamed by the discovery that a mansion belonging to the Earl of Shrewsbury, at Clerkenwell, was in the occupation of a community of Jesuits. This discovery was made just previously to the assembly of Parliament, and of course ample political use was made of it. The Jesuits were arrested on the 15th of March. Parliament met on the 17th and on the 24th, in renewing the motion for supply, Mr.

Secretary (Sir John) Cooke spoke as follows:—"The first sower of seeds of distractions amongst us was an agent of Spain, Gondomar, that did his master great service here and at home. Since that we have had other ministers that have blown the fire. The ambassador of France told his master at home what he had wrought here the last parliament—namely, divisions between king and people, and he was rewarded for it. Whilst we sat here in parliament, there was another intended parliament of Jesuits and other well-willers, within a mile of this place; that this is true was discovered by letters sent to Rome: the place of their meeting is changed, and some of them are there, where they ought to be. If you look in your calendar, there is a day of St. Joseph,—it was called in the letter the Oriental day,—and that was the day intended for their meeting. I speak this to see God's hand to work our union in their division." Two days afterwards the Commons had a conference with the Lords on the subject of a petition against recusants, when Cooke, *more suo*, spoke again, characterising the Jesuits as a viperous generation, "with tooth and nail assaying to rend the bowels of their mother," and expressing a hope that, as "the council have by their authority caused this nest of wasps to be digged out of the earth, further mischief may be prevented." Nothing treasonable, however, was discovered in the archives of the fraternity uprooted at Clerkenwell. The "oriental day" alluded to a certain celebration, and did not indicate a period for wholesale murder of the Protestants. The issue is stated by Prynne, who tells us that by the influence of powerful friends at court, the Jesuits were released upon bail, and were "conveyed out of harm's way." The illustrative notes of this tract are such as we may always expect from the diligence and accuracy of Mr. Nichols, but we can hardly agree with him in his censure of Cooke. At this juncture holiday phrases could not be expected; the Gunpowder Plot still rung in the ears of the nation, and men's fears exaggerated every alarm.

Exposition of the Grammatical Structure of the English Language: being an Attempt to furnish an Improved Method of Teaching Grammar. By John Mulligan, B.M. Simpkin and Marshall.

WE noticed last year ('L. G.' 1852, p. 368) an American work, entitled, 'The Grammar of English Grammars,' by Mr. Gould Brown, a book of immense research and immense size, a huge encyclopædia of grammatical knowledge, consisting of more than a thousand large and closely-printed pages. Mr. Mulligan's labours are not quite so enormous, being comprised in five hundred and seventy pages, and it might have been well for his object had he aimed at greater brevity. The closing words of Quintilian's 'Treatise on Grammar,' used by Mr. Gould Brown as the motto of his work, might have suggested some omissions. 'Hæc de grammaticâ quam brevissime potui: non ut omnia dicerem sectatus (quod infinitum erat), sed ut maxime necessaria.' Mr. Mulligan aims at a thorough reformation of the method of teaching grammar, and his work is chiefly directed to this practical object. We think that he somewhat overstates the defects of existing grammatical education, and over-estimates the importance of his own method. At the age at which the first principles of grammar are presented to the young, few are not capable of understanding or remembering the theory and philosophy of the use of language which systematic grammar teaches. Comparatively few simple rules suffice for practical use; and it is generally later in life, in the study of the dead or foreign languages, that a fuller acquaintance with systematic grammar is acquired. It would be well if a thorough knowledge of grammar could be early obtained, so as to facilitate and abbreviate the acquisition of other languages, and every endeavour to effect this is deserving of praise. More must depend on the personal tact and knowledge of the teachers of youth than upon the text-books which they use. Mr. Mulligan's book contains much valuable matter for the consideration of teachers. It is a work which every

pupil of the normal schools for training school-masters ought to study. The arrangement of the volume is excellent, and every part bears proof of extensive research and careful thought. Mr. Mulligan promises an abridgment of his work for educational use, the larger volume being not adapted for junior pupils. With this abridgment we shall better be able to judge of the practical merit of his system of instruction. With many of the incidental notes, and the articles on punctuation, versification, and other subjects, we have been much pleased. Mr. Mulligan shows himself to be a man of ingenuity and taste in general literature, as well as a learned writer on grammar. With the most recent English literature he shows himself to be familiar.

The Chapel of the Hermits; and other Poems. By John G. Whittier. Sampson Low, Son, and Co. MR. WHITTIER is an American poet, some of whose verses are better than the average poetry of the day. The sentiments are good, and a tone of piety and a spirit of liberty pervade the volume. Whatever difference of opinion there is in America on the subject of slavery, we never met with a poet yet who did not sing on the side of freedom. Slavery is a subject little suited to be a poet's theme. Yet if the system is not utterly evil, why should its praises be not sung as well as spoken! There are American orators who defend slavery, but the poets of the New World all utter harmonious voices of freedom. Mr. Whittier has several pieces relating to the slavery question, written with considerable power, though their metre is somewhat rough and unmusical. One of the smoothest of the minor poems is the following address to Frederika Bremer, which the author says is the joint impromptu of himself and his sister:—

"Seeress of the misty Norland,
Daughter of the Vikings hold,
Welcome to the sunny Vineland,
Which thy fathers sought of old!

"Soft as flow of Silja's waters,
When the moon of summer shines,
Strong as Winter from his mountains
Roaring through the sleeted pines.

"Heart and ear, we long have listened
To thy saga, rune and song,
Till a household joy and presence
We have known and loved thee long.

"By the mansion's marble mantel,
Round the log-walled cabin's hearth,
Thy sweet thoughts and northern fancies
Meet and mingle with our mirth.

"And, o'er weary spirits keeping
Sorow's night-watch, long and chill,
Shine they like thy sun of summer
Over midnight vale and hill.

"We alone are strangers to thee,
Thou our friend and teacher art;
Come, and know us as we know thee;
Let us meet thee heart to heart!

"To our homes and household altars
We, in turn, thy steps would lead,
As thy loving hand has led us
O'er the threshold of the Swede."

The closing poem, "To my Old Schoolmaster," pleases us most in the book, from its cheerful tone and its quaint descriptions of American life and customs in the past generation. In the "Questions of Life," or "A Prisoner at Naples," there is more boldness of thought than in any of the other pieces. The Americans count Mr. Whittier one of their best poets, naming him even with Bryant, Halleck, and Longfellow. Though a Quaker and non-resistance man, he has been called by his countrymen "the Tyrtæus of the New World," and the effect of reading some of his poems is said to be an intense desire "to step out and fight somebody or something." The poems in the present volume are of a more peaceful strain than some of his earlier compositions, but still the old fire of indignant hatred of oppression and wrong, in every form, shows itself.

The Farmers' Manual of Agricultural Chemistry. By A. Normandy, author of the 'Commercial Handbook of Chemical Analysis.' Knight and Sons.

MR. NORMANDY has prepared a volume of much practical value to agriculturists. While sufficient information is given as to the theory and principles

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of farming as explained by scientific writers, the main purpose of the book is to give simple and specific directions for applying that scientific knowledge to practical purposes. The methods of ascertaining the composition of soils, the examination of different kinds of land with view to the culture of particular crops, the analysis of manures, and other matters which it is desirable for an agriculturist to be versed in, are here fully and familiarly expounded. The use of this book will enable the farmer to take advantage of the guidance of scientific research, at much less expense than by consultation of professional analysts and advisers, and the directions on every subject are so minute as to render the work a sufficient manual of agricultural chemistry for all ordinary purposes in the cultivation of the soil. In special cases, and for definite objects, recourse will still be had to scientific and practical chemists, but the use of the apparatus and materials prepared by Messrs. Knight, in connexion with which Mr. Normandy's book is written, will enable much to be done at home by those who have enjoyed the education, which is happily now becoming general, for those who are to be engaged in agricultural pursuits. Two chapters on the principal diseases of cereals, and the means of prevention and cure, add to the practical value of the volume. The work is illustrated by numerous wood engravings. A prize medal was awarded to Knight and Sons for their chemical cabinet, reference to many of the contents of which is made in Mr. Normandy's 'Manual.'

Outlines of Scripture Geography and History, designed for the use of Schools and Private Reading. By Edward Hughes, F.R.G.S. Longman and Co.

To the many valuable geographical works prepared by Mr. Hughes has been added, in the present volume, one which will be certain of wide popularity. Scientific knowledge and varied learning have here been brought to bear on the illustration of the sacred Scriptures. Abundant materials have been gradually accumulating for such a work, through the researches of scholars, and the discoveries and observations of travellers. But the information thus acquired is scattered through numerous and costly publications, and has thus not been accessible to the general reader. Mr. Hughes has, with great diligence and intelligent zeal, collected the results of recent as well as ancient researches in the lands of the Bible, and has presented them in a manual for popular and educational use. The writings of Rosenmüller, Winer, Röhre, Von Raumer, Jahn, Robinson, Wilson, Kitto, Coleman, and others, have been used in the compilation. Extracts from the travels and researches of Olin, Durbin, Stephens, Kirby and Mangles, Burckhardt, Lamartine, Buckingham, and Layard, are introduced as illustrating the descriptive part of the work. Accurate maps are given from those of Kiepert, Wilson, and Robinson. For purposes of instruction in schools, or for private reference by the Biblical student, this is a most complete and truly valuable handbook of Scripture geography and history.

Histoire de Madame Henriette d'Angleterre. Paris: Techener.

This is a reprint, with much needed corrections and notes, of a work written partly by the famous Madame Lafayette, and partly by the Princess Henrietta herself. With this work, all who have taken the trouble to study the reign of *le grand monarque* of France are of course well acquainted—it is one of the most remarkable pictures of manners of that very remarkable period, and is written with very considerable elegance. Of all the great personages of the France of those days the Princess Henrietta was one of the most striking, from her beauty and her intelligence, her virtues and her frailties, her skill in political intrigue, and her truly royal patronage of literature in the persons of Racine and Boileau. In addition to all this, she possesses the further charm in English eyes of having been the daughter of the unfortunate Charles I. And she enjoys, in all Christian Europe, the inestimable privilege of having, by her early and pious death, afforded Bossuet the ma-

terials for one of the most magnificent pulpit orations which exist in the civilised world. It is to the late M. Bazin, so favourably known by his works in connexion with the reign of Louis XIV., that we are indebted for the revised and annotated edition of this valuable piece of royal biography.

Vie de Saint Anselme de Cantorbéry. By Ch. de Rémusat. Paris: Didier.

ALTHOUGH we do not entertain that admiration for the elegant, yet somewhat weak and flavourless style of M. de Rémusat, which many of his countrymen profess, we are by no means indisposed to award him a very honourable place amongst the contemporary literary *notabilités* of France—if only for his work on German philosophy. We therefore opened this book with a sort of predisposition to admire, and in closing it we must say, that we consider it not only one of the best biographies of the learned and able Anselm—that "pope of the other world," the "other world" being England, as he is somewhere called—that has appeared; but at the same time a picturesque description of the state of the church, of society, of the government of England, of the papacy, and of Rome, in his time; whilst it throws much useful light on the political and religious questions which were then agitated, and on the first faint dawn of the great philosophical truths which now illuminate the civilized world. But in saying this we cannot give M. de Rémusat the credit which some French critics claim for him, of having been the very first to do anything like justice to Anselm and his epoch. We English knew a good deal about both long ago.

SUMMARY.

In a work entitled *Observations on India*, by a Resident there many Years, a large amount of information is given as to the climate, productions, customs, religion, and government of British India. The writer is a man of much experience and good sense, and his remarks are worthy of attention at the present time, when the subject of the renewal of the East India Company's Charter is discussed. On some points the criticisms of the old resident are unwarrantable; but in general the abuses and wrongs, which he unsparingly denounces, are such as must be removed if good and lasting government is to be exercised by the English in the East. The author thinks that the rule of the Company is far preferable to any more direct authority of the Home government, but that there must be great reform in the administration; and also that native talent should be far more employed in offices of responsibility and trust. The extending education of the natives renders it impossible that strangers should long continue to hold the country merely for selfish purposes, as has too much been the case hitherto. While there may be difference of opinion as to some of the author's suggestions, his statements of facts—the result of personal observation in different provinces—are valuable contributions to the knowledge required for dealing in a statesmanlike way with the arrangements for the future government of India. The style of the book is forcible, and he condenses much matter into a volume of only a hundred and eighty pages.

Some papers written for various periodicals, by Ferdinand Gasc, M.A., *Education in England, Revolutions in France, Free Trade in Colonisation*, contain statements and reflections on these several subjects, by a philosophical thinker and able writer. The paper on the 'Revolutions in France,' written for the 'North British Review,' gives a very striking and truthful sketch of the state of modern French society and government, and satisfactorily explains the troubled and depressed condition of that land of political vicissitudes. Mr. Gasc does not, however, give sufficient prominence to moral causes of deterioration, as well as those of a political and social kind. At present it is as much by spiritual as by military despotism that France is ruled. Civil liberty cannot flourish where religious freedom is not prized. To those who are fond of physiological speculations, a paper *On the State of the Mind during Sleep*, and other conditions, by R.

Fowler, M.D., will suggest curious subjects of study. Dr. Fowler read a paper on the subject at the Belfast meeting of the British Association, which, with valuable additions, is now published. In Darton's School Library, edited by the Rev. B. J. Johns, of Dulwich College Grammar School, a very useful little French manual is published, *An Easy and Practical Introduction to the French Language*, by John Haas, teacher of modern languages in Queenwood College, Hants. Mr. Haas has had much experience in tuition, and the present treatise is well adapted as a schoolbook for elementary instruction in French. We may at the same time notice with approval *The Little French Reader*, by Mlle. Tieset, of Cheltenham, a work prepared for the author's pupils, and which will be found useful for others in supplying instruction and exercises in French reading. A book of larger importance, *The Whole French Language*, comprised in a series of lessons, by T. Robertson, is publishing in three volumes, of which the first is before us. Without entering into special criticism, we simply commend the work as an able and practical educational treatise. Mr. Robertson has for above thirty years been engaged as an English teacher in Paris, and his consequent familiarity with both languages gives him peculiar advantages for the preparation of a work like the present.

An authentic and ably-written account of the proceedings connected with the Anti-Corn-Law Agitation, is published by Archibald Prentice, *The History of the Anti-Corn-Law League*. Mr. Prentice is the author of 'Historical Sketches and Personal Recollections of Manchester, from 1792 to 1832,' and other works of considerable interest. For many years he was a conspicuous journalist, having been one of the conductors of the 'Manchester Times,' and latterly he was occupied as a lecturer by the Anti-Corn-Law League, of the executive council of which he was a member. Being intimately acquainted with the plans and proceedings of that formidable organization, he is enabled to present an accurate record of their proceedings in this history, the first volume of which brings the narrative down to the close of the year 1842. Besides the specific object of the volume, it contains many facts relating to the progress of free-trade opinions, and other matters connected with the commercial and political changes in this country since the year 1832.

In the *Memoir of a Metaphysician*, by Francis Drake, Esq., a number of discussions and speculations on mental science are presented as episodes in a story woven for their reception. The Scotch usher and German teacher, in the school which is the principal scene of the memoir, say all that can be urged on behalf of the metaphysical systems most in vogue in their respective countries. The author, speaking through the master of the school, assents to the common-sense and practical results of the Scottish mental philosophers, but considers their fundamental principles as assumed on insufficient grounds. The inductive science of mind as contradistinguished from matter, is described as being impracticable, and a philosophy of man, as a compound of mental and material, is alone desirable. The book does not leave much impression as to the utility or value of metaphysical science, but the author's speculations and opinions will amuse those interested in such studies. Mr. Drake deals with some difficult points of practical ethics in the course of his work. Some of the statements on these subjects are objectionable, but the book is not one likely to be read by those to whom the raising of such questions might be hurtful.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Amy Rose, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Anna Lee, 12mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.
 Booth and Morfit's Encyclopedia of Chemistry, £1 1s.
 Campbell's India as it May be, 8vo, cloth.
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POSTAL COMMUNICATION.

THE course of political discussion in this country is from time to time agreeably and profitably varied by the public agitation of some social question of universal interest. Some years ago the miserable state of education was the topic of the day, and the agitation grew till the epoch arrived, which was inaugurated by Brougham's famous saying, "The Schoolmaster is abroad." After a time came the postman's turn, and the reform took place with which the name of Rowland Hill is honourably associated. The extension of the advantage of cheap and uniform postage to the colonies could not long be delayed after the success in every way of the home experiment. In spite of political difficulties the subject of cheap international postage is also advancing under the advocacy of Elihu Burritt and the friends of oceanic penny postage. Meanwhile an important step has been made in the reduction of Colonial postage by the British Government to the uniform rate of sixpence to or from any part of the Queen's dominions. "To waft a sigh from Indus to the Pole" will be henceforth a more frequent and less costly luxury than in the good old times, which better new times are rapidly displacing.

By a recent notice in the 'London Gazette' it is declared that "printed books, magazines, reviews, &c., whether British, or colonial, or foreign, posted in the United Kingdom, addressed to New South Wales, or posted in New South Wales, and addressed to the United Kingdom, may be transmitted by post, subject to the following regulations. Every packet consisting of a single printed book, &c., if not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. in weight, shall be charged 6d., not exceeding 1lb. shall be charged 1s.; 2lbs., 2s.; 3lbs., 3s. No packet exceeding 3lbs., and over two feet in dimensions, length or breadth, to be transmitted by post. Postage to be prepaid duly stamped. Packets without cover open at the ends. Those not in accordance with the above regulations are liable to be opened or detained at the option of the Postmaster-General." These regulations came into force on the 1st of April in the United Kingdom, and on the 1st of August in New South Wales. Similar privileges and facilities for the transmission of books and printed papers have been already granted to other colonies, and form part of the great system of cheap and uniform postal communication which is one of the chief questions of the day, not only for those immediately interested in the colonies, but as affecting the general progress of commerce and civilization throughout the world.

In the course of last month an extraordinary meeting of the Society of Arts was held at the Society's House in the Adelphi, when the whole subject of colonial and international postage was taken into consideration, and resolutions were passed pledging the meeting to increased exertion for effecting postage reform. Mr. Yapp, the corresponding secretary of the Postage Reform Association, read an interesting paper, a few sentences of which we subjoin.

"There are few subjects of interest to a larger number of people than that of postage. It cannot be said to be exclusively a commercial, a literary, or a scientific question. It appeals to all classes of society, whether engaged in commerce, literature, or the arts. It appeals to our feelings as well as to our interests. It is a matter which deeply concerns the manufacturer and the merchant, and it is no less interesting to all who are united by ties of affection or sympathy to others from whom they are separated by distance.

"Facilities of communication of all kinds are sure tests of the progress of civilization, and of the development of the resources of a country. Seventy years ago the mails were carried through England on horseback, at the rate of three miles and a-half an hour; and when Mr. Palmer (the Rowland Hill of that day) proposed the establishment of the mail-coach system, the Post Office authorities of the time thought that the pace was quite as fast as was requisite—they could not see the use of hastening the mails.

"The mail-coach system was, however, established after much discussion; and there were few things that Englishmen were prouder of than the mail-coaches which, from 1784, commenced running in all directions from St. Martin's-le-Grand.

"Railways have superseded the mails; and the letter that used to be a week or even a month reaching the remote parts of our own country and cost 16d., now flies there while we are in bed, and costs us but one penny."

After giving official details as to the number of home letters under the old and new systems, and the financial results of the cheap postage in the United Kingdom, and also in those continental countries which have reduced their charges, Mr. Yapp refers to the new importance with which the subject of colonial postage is invested from the extraordinary emigration which is now carrying a thousand of our countrymen daily from our shores to the Antipodes.

"Such a migration is without parallel in history; and the growth of the colonies, towards which this vast tide of human beings is directed, is equally extraordinary.

"A colonisation so unprecedented calls for extraordinary means of correspondence; and nothing can be of more importance in cementing the interest of the colonies and of the mother country than such a postal system as shall make the cost of a letter no impediment to its being sent upon the most trifling occasion, not only by the merchant and tradesman, but by the poorest emigrant just landed on the Australian shore, or by the anxious mother, wife, or sister of him whom the ocean separates from them for a time, and perhaps for ever.

"At present the postage on a letter to our foreign possessions varies from 8d. to 1s. 10d., the average being about 1s. There are two rates to each colony, according to whether the letter be sent by private ship or by packet; in some cases the letters must be prepaid, in others it is optional; while from some of the colonies letters cannot be prepaid under any circumstances. And, lastly, there is this vexatious fact in addition, that whatever the amount paid on this side, a writer knows not how much more his correspondent will have to pay before the letter will be given up to him."

The announcement of the Postmaster-General has for the present settled the question of colonial postage, but the Association will still continue its efforts to procure a still greater reduction of rates. The different speakers at the meeting of the Society of Arts presented various aspects of the question in striking points of view. Captain Owen, R.E., remarked that freight to Australia was up to 15l. a ton, being four or five times the ordinary rate; but even at that enormous rate, inasmuch as it would require 71,680 half-ounce letters to make a ton, the freight of each letter would be no more than one-twentieth of a penny. It was stated that only three and a half millions of colonial letters pass annually through the Post-office for the whole of the British possessions abroad, India included—a number incredibly small, and probably less than a fourth of those that are privately conveyed by other means. A larger number of letters is posted in this country in a single week. The whole revenue of the Colonial postage is under 200,000l., a very small portion of which would even at first be sacrificed by reduction of charges; and even if there were loss to the revenue, "the advantage to trade and commerce, by the safe and speedy conveyance of letters," is the declared object of the Post-office from its first institution under Charles II., down to the most recent report of the Post-office Commissioners. Besides the advantage of trade and commerce, the moral and social benefits of postal communication are of high importance. The chairman of the meeting, Sir John Peter Boileau, Mrs. Chisholm, and others, referred to this point, the latter giving some very striking instances from her own observation in Australia. The very gratifying fact was also mentioned as to the correspondence between Ireland and North

America. The number of letters passing through the Irish post-office was about a tenth of the whole of the United Kingdom, and of the letters going to the Canadas, no less than a third of the whole number go from Ireland, which has no trade with Canada. "And this," said the speaker, Mr. Moffat, M.P., "notwithstanding a postage of 1s. and 1s. 2d.; showing that the ties of social and domestic affection only require to be developed, to assume a much more striking manifestation." Sir John Boileau added, on the authority of the American Minister, that two-fifths of the postage between the two countries was paid in Ireland, and that the proportion was steadily increasing.

In a recent number of the 'Journal of the Society of Arts' a correspondence appears between Mr. Yapp and Mr. Bates of Boston, Massachusetts, the secretary of a society in the United States for promoting cheap postage. The progress of public opinion in both countries on the subject is such as might be expected from the obvious importance of the ends to be attained. The last Report of the Postmaster-General of the United States gives every encouragement from its statements of the results of the reduction of postage in that country. The number of letters has increased from 24,267,562 in 1843 to nearly 90,000,000 in the year ending June 30, 1852, while the income of the Post-office department, which for ten years previous to the reduction had fallen short of the expenditure, for five subsequent years yielded a balance to the revenue of the country. On the general question the Report offers the following opinion:—

"All experience warrants the expectation, that as a community becomes accustomed to cheap postage, written correspondence will increase. From this cause, and from the rapid growth of the country in population and business, the receipts of the department must ultimately exceed its expenses, and enable it to refund to the Treasury the sums advanced. In the mean time, the appropriations made from the Treasury in aid of the Post Office establishment may be deemed safe and beneficial investments for the advantage of the whole people, each one of whom, even if not engaged in business correspondence, has a deep interest in the diffusion of intelligence, and the promotion of social intercourse."

The American Postmaster-General complains in his Report that arrangements have not been made for the exchange of a closed mail with France and England, in consequence of the British Government insisting on a shilling an ounce of transit postage; and says that France is inclined to enter into a treaty with the United States, independent of England, to establish a union line of mail steamships between New York and Havre. This shows the impolicy of our present high rates of ocean postage, and the advantage, not for purposes of commerce only, but the maintenance of international peace and goodwill, to bring about every facility for the transmission of mails, closed or open, throughout all countries with the greatest possible facility, and at the smallest possible cost. In this great object England can take the lead among the nations of the world, and to her will accrue the greatest advantage.

MADAME DE POMPADOUR.

THE curious historical document, of which we subjoin an abstract, was recently discovered in the archives of the department of Seine et Oise, and published by M. Leroy, librarian to the town of Versailles. It is well known that Jeanne Antoinette Poisson, after her marriage with the Sub-Farmer-General Lenormand d'Etiolles, which took place when she was still very young, became the mistress of Louis XV. Her mother, an ambitious woman, delighting in intrigue, had always coveted for her daughter the *honourable* situation which she was afterwards called to fill. She therefore took care to give her a brilliant education, and especially to develop in her a taste for the fine arts. It was in the year 1749 that she became the acknowledged mistress (*maitresse en titre*) of the king, being at the same time created by letters patent Marquise of Pompadour. In the same year also the manuscript to which we are now referring was commenced. It is a small quarto, written upon coarse grey paper, in a small hand, and very badly spelt, apparently

in the handwriting of a person in the service of the Marquise, and in all probability compiled from a variety of notes written by Madame de Pompadour herself, as is evident from the fact that the transcriber, not choosing to take the trouble of altering what he had before him, frequently speaks in the first person, as in the following item—"I had in a silver table service," &c.; and again, "Wages for my servants during nineteen years," &c. It is covered with a sheet of yellow paper, upon which is written "Enormous expenses." The first page bears the following title, "Etat des dépenses faites pendant la règne de Madame la Marquise de Pompadour, à commencer le 9 Septembre, 1749, jusqu'au 19 Avril, 1764." This last date was the day of her death.

The first part of the manuscript contains the expenses incident to the erection of several buildings. Building, indeed, was a fancy and amusement in which the Marquise took especial delight, and not only did she beautify and repair, on a very grand and expensive scale, several estates which she had bought, but she built for herself a variety of mansions; and upon one occasion, having inoculated the king with the mania which possessed herself, she obtained from him a large extent of ground lying on the ridge of hills that commands the view of the Seine, (between Paris and Versailles.) Here she built, with the assistance of her younger brother Poisson, better known under the name of the Marquis de Marigny, the magnificent château of Bellevue, which afterwards became the property of Mesdames of France, as the four daughters of Louis XV. by the Queen Marie Leczinska were called, (although by their father they were usually nicknamed *Graille, Chiffre, Coche, and Loque*, which, translated by Mr. Carlyle, means *Rag, Snip, Pig, and Dud.*) Of this splendid structure no trace is left. In 1748, Madame de Pompadour purchased two estates, Crecy and Annoy, at a cost of 790,000 livres,* and repaired them in the course of the seven following years at an expense of 3,000,000 livres. In 1749 she bought Celle, an estate in the neighbourhood of Versailles, and having obtained, as a present from the king, a portion of the home park of the latter palace, she built a villa called her Hermitage, at an expense of 269,001 livres, 10 sous, 11 deniers. Besides these estates, the Marquise had private hotels in or near all the principal royal residences at Versailles, Compeigne, Fontainebleau, and Paris. In the first town there is still one in existence, under the name of the *Hôtel des Réserveurs, ou Restaurant Dubois*. It was built in 1793, at a cost of 210,844 livres. At Fontainebleau she had a hermitage erected in the same year, at an expense of 237,000 livres, and at Paris she occupied the Hôtel d'Evreux, for which she paid 730,000 livres. In this chapter are also found various expenses for several religious establishments; and mention is likewise made of the artists, sculptors, painters, and enamellers employed, and the cost at which their services were secured. The best known among them is the painter Oudry, the Landseer of his time.

Perhaps the most curious part of the manuscript is the section devoted to a journal begun on the 9th of September, 1749, and ending March, 1764, in which is inscribed, for every month, all that the Marquise received for her ordinary and extraordinary expenses, the receipts of the former amounting to 1,767,674 livres, 7 sous, 6 deniers, while the actual disbursements exceed 1,977,207 livres. Her monthly allowance was for the first year 2400 livres; but during the four following years she frequently received during the month upwards of 30,000 livres. When, however, the king's passion for her began to decline—and these accounts define its rise and fall pretty accurately—her monthly allowance of 2400 livres was seldom exceeded. During the first years of her reign, Madame de Pompadour also received from the king several New Year's gifts (*àrennes*) of considerable amount, varying from

50,000 livres to 24,000 livres. The expenses of the Marquise, however, did not decrease with the admiration of the king, and in order to meet them the gaming table was resorted to. Thus we find her winning at Marly, on the 17th of May, 1752, 9120 livres, and on the 31st of the same month 28,800 livres; and in 1790 she tells us that she sold some *bracelets des perles* for 12,960 livres, and two years afterwards realised 20,489 livres by the sale of jewels and game.

The journal is followed by an enumeration of the whole property of Madame de Pompadour, and of the expenses not relating to buildings.

Exact state of my Property.	Livres.
1. My service of silver.....	537,600
2. My service of gold and a variety of nick-nacks.....	190,000
3. She spent in trifles and amusements.....	1,338,000
4. For the table during 19 years.....	3,904,000
5. Travelling expenses, operas, comedies, &c.....	4,005,900
6. For wages for my servants—19 years.....	1,168,886
7. Annuities that I paid up to the day of my death.....	229,236
8. My casket containing 98 ornaments in gold.....	394,000
9. Another casket containing all my diamonds.....	1,783,000
10. A superb collection of engraving stones (plates), engraved by the Sieur de Guay, groom to the king—valued at.....	400,000

Madame de Pompadour could both draw and paint very well, and herself engraved a series of sixty-three prints from these plates, which were published in a small folio, now very scarce, as but a few copies were printed for private distribution. The second edition, which appeared in 1782, is less valuable. It was *à propos* to her accomplishments in this line that Voltaire, having one day surprised her as she was drawing a head, extemporized the following madrigal—

"Pompadour, ton crayon divin
Devrait dessiner ton visage;
Jamais une plus belle main
N'aurait fait un plus bel ouvrage."

We shall now only extract some of the articles which follow:—

	Livres.
15. Linen for bedding and the table.....	1,000,000
16. My wardrobe, everything included.....	390,235
17. My kitchen utensils for all my mansions.....	60,172
18. My library, including a number of MSS.....	12,500
20. Given to the poor during my reign.....	150,000
22. For the affairs of my father.....	400,000
24. Cost of wax candles during 19 years.....	660,000
26. Mares, carriages, sedans, saddle horses, according to the Gazette of Utrecht.....	1,800,000

What this malicious 'Gazette of Utrecht' said, the editor of the manuscript has been unable to find out, but there is no doubt that the Marquise was very fond of horses, as she established a magnificent 'haras' on her estate of Pompadour, which still exists, where she collected all the finest stallions from every country. The following item shows the cost of this taste:—

	Livres.
27. Food for my horses during 19 years.....	1,300,000

After stating all these heavy expenses, the writer of the manuscript makes the following reflections,—"From these details, nobody will believe the fact that at her death only thirty-seven Louis d'ors were found in her possession,—they were in her writing-table, and intended for the poor. Another incredible fact (so he proceeds) let out by 'Collen' (the *factotum* of the Marquise) is, that during her last illness he was obliged to borrow 70,000 livres to meet current expenses. This refutes the report, that at the time of her death she had money in all the European banks, when the fact was that she was then indebted in an amount equal to 1,700,000 livres.

The manuscript abounds in several other interesting details respecting the life and times of this, in some respects, extraordinary woman. We have not, however, space for them, and will therefore content ourselves with observing, that the whole amount which Madame de Pompadour, according to her own declaration and statement, cost France, exceeded 36,000,000 livres in the nineteen years of her favour. Let us add, that for some time past the wealth of France has hardly found a better use.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

WE little thought while noticing last week the controversy between the Rev. T. Kerchever Arnold and the Fraserian critic, that death had put an end to the labours of the industrious editor of the *School Classics*. He died at his rectory of Lyndon, Rutlandshire, after a short illness, on the 9th inst. Having so recently expressed our opinion of Mr. Arnold's qualifications and merits as an editor, and having on many former occasions called attention to his various works, we need not now add more than a passing testimony to the value of his services in the cause of classical education. Some of the books published under his superintendence have introduced important researches and comments of continental scholars to English students, and in editions of other classics which appear of less value, some allowance must be made for the multiplicity of literary labours in which Mr. T. Kerchever Arnold was somewhat too eagerly induced to engage.

The new President of the United States has exercised his literary ingenuity in inventing a round-about phrase for slavery, which, in his inaugural address, he terms 'involuntary servitude.' This is somewhat akin to Mr. Disraeli's clever periphrasis for free-trade, 'unrestricted competition.' The old plain words, 'protection' and 'slavery,' being in bad odour, whether justly or not, it is advisable to veil them in language less revolting to public feeling. This little literary incident we take as a favourable index of the growth of public opinion in America against the system which is so sad a disgrace to the great republic. General Pierce's words are worthy of record "I believe that involuntary servitude, as it exists in different States of this confederacy, is recognised by this constitution. I believe that it stands like any other admitted right, and that the States wherein it exists are entitled to efficient remedies to enforce the constitutional provision. I hold that the laws of 1850, commonly called 'the compromise measures,' are strictly constitutional, and to be unhesitatingly carried into effect." In this country the law of 1850 is commonly called 'the Fugitive Slave Act,' and is regarded as a very bad compromise between justice and expediency, between moral right and political difficulty. General Pierce's declaration of his readiness to enforce existing laws is a sop to the popular cry for the integrity of the Union; but his manner of referring to 'involuntary servitude' is an unconscious tribute to the anti-slavery feeling, which is gaining strength day by day. It is a good omen when the President of the United States is ashamed to use the plain English word 'slavery' with approbation.

A conversation took place this week in the House of Commons on the question of unstamped publications. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply to a question of Mr. Milner Gibson, in reference to the case of the prosecution of the publishers of the 'Household Narrative,' said, that the subject was under the consideration of the law officers of the Crown, and that the Government would come to some decision as soon as their opinion had been received. Mr. Hume, Mr. Cobden, and Mr. Ricardo strongly advised the extinction of the tax, urging the difficulty of rigidly defining what was meant by "news," and the advantage of granting every facility for diffusing knowledge of a social and political kind. It was suggested by Mr. Hume and Mr. Cobden that the journals now under discussion should be freed from stamp duty, for local circulation, and that postage should be charged, by which the public revenue would doubtless suffer no loss. We have on several occasions stated our views on the general subject of cheap political publications, the unchecked and indiscriminate issue of which we consider would not be beneficial to the real progress either of literature or social advancement. At the same time, the present state of the law is unsatisfactory, and the proceedings under it are partial and vexatious, so that we rejoice at the prospect of a settlement of the question.

The Royal Panopticon of Science and Art in Leicester-square is rapidly advancing toward com-

*The initial letters of the old French coins, "L. s. d." are here preserved, and respectively stand for "livres, or livres tournois," having the same value as a franc, or tenpence; "sous," and "deniers," the latter being about the 441st part of a centime.

pletion, and we are glad to learn that educational arrangements are to be combined with the objects of commerce and amusement for which the institution was projected. A course of instruction in all the branches of photographic art is to commence on the premises on the 21st of this month. The building, with its *bizarre* arabesque architecture, 'the scientific mosque,' as it has been jestingly called, looks less eccentric in the exterior as the ornamental parts are completed. The interior has a grand and imposing effect, from the vast height of the domed roof, and the pillared galleries, around which the counters for exposition of manufactured goods are ranged. If the arrangements for lectures and courses of instruction are carried out with the same spirit that the commercial purposes of the building have been planned, the institution will deserve the encouragement and support of all who are interested in popular education in science and art. The names of the managing directors include some men distinguished in the scientific world, so that there is every prospect of the Panopticon being an important addition to the public institutions of the metropolis, for objects similar to those which the Polytechnic Institution in Regent-street has long been deservedly celebrated.

M. Philarete Chasles, of the Bibliothèque Mazarine, relates in the 'Journal des Débats,' that, to his great delight, a few days ago he found amongst a box of neglected manuscripts in that library, the copy of an unpublished and unknown letter of Madame de Sevigné, "full of the sap and verdure of early youth," in prose and verse, of "becoming playfulness, of marvellous emotion, and of the style which is not a style, but life itself, the movement and the essence of thought;" but he adds that, to his grand mortification, he learned from some enthusiastic idolators of Madame de Sevigné that the letter is already known, the original of it having been discovered some time ago by M. Louis Passy in the national archives, and even published in a work by Madame de Monmerque. On this M. Chasles suggests that it is very desirable that a new edition of the Sevigné letters should be brought out, as many new letters which ought to be introduced amongst them have been found of late years; and as, besides, there are errors which should be corrected, and obscure portions on which light should be thrown. If a foreign voice can have any influence in such a subject, we heartily say 'ditto' to M. Chasles.

From Cologne we learn that the library of Christian and Clement Brentano, brothers of Bettine von Arnim, is to be sold by auction on the 5th of April. The library is not a large one, the whole number of lots not exceeding 3660, but there is a good collection of autographs, some valuable works on old church history, and rare treatises of magic and witchcraft. In the same town a curious work of art has been for some time exhibited; it consists of a flat surface, upon which appear a quantity of coloured spots without the slightest trace of design or order in their arrangement; indeed they remind one more of the dried-up colours on a painter's palette than anything else. A cylindrical mirror being placed in the middle of the table, reflects a perfect picture of the elevation of the cross, a composition containing six figures, no less accurate in their drawing than beautiful in their colouring; one looks in vain for any method or design in the irregular and shapeless mass of colours smeared on the flat board.

The name of Mr. Robert Owen has now for half a century been before the public, latterly in connexion with the not very reputable principles of Socialism. But apart from these speculative vagaries, Mr. Owen has a more honourable and enduring reputation as zealous educationist, and a practical philanthropist. He is a wonderful instance of octogenarian baleness and activity both of mind and body. A petition was presented by his comparatively youthful friend, Lord Brougham, in the House of Lords this week, praying for a public inquiry into his system of education. Lord Brougham paid a high tribute to Mr. Owen's merits and services in the cause of education, and said that in one

respect he had been a great benefactor to his country and to mankind at large, as the originator of infant schools. Lord Brougham mentioned, as a proof of Mr. Owen not being a mere theorist in education, that the schools long since established by him at New Lanark in Scotland, after paying interest at the rate of 5 per cent. on the capital invested, had yielded a net profit of 12,000*l.* a year, or a total of 335,000*l.*, to be divided among the contributors.

A singular discovery has been made in France by a M. Fabre, a humble gardener of Ayde, but of some local note as a botanist. The herb *agilops*, heretofore considered as worse than useless, grows abundantly on the shores of the Mediterranean. It produces a species of grain resembling wheat in form, but much smaller. In the year 1839 M. Fabre sowed a quantity of this grain, and he was struck by observing that the produce of it seemed to bear a close affinity to wheat. That produce he sowed the next year, and the yield was still more like wheat. He went on sowing the yield in this way year after year, and each year found a marked improvement in the produce, until at last he had the satisfaction of getting as fine a crop of wheat, and of as good quality, as could wish to be seen. At first he produced his crops in a garden, but his later sowings were made broadcast in an open field. Thus then a wild and mischievous herb, which is particularly destructive to barley crops, can be *educated* into excellent wheat!

Baron von Senck, an Austrian artillery officer quartered in Mayence, is said to have made such improvements in gun-cotton, that it can now be made available for all description of fire-arms. Professors Schonbein and Böttcher, the original inventors of the gun-cotton, have sold their patent to the Austrian government for 30,000 florins, under the conditions of disclosing their secret to no one else, and imparting at once to the Austrian government any further improvements they may make.

A curious discovery has been made at Paris, that of three skeletons, in the lower part of a house occupied at one time by the Marquise de Brinvilliers, so notorious for her numerous poisonings. It is stated that the skeletons are without doubt those of her two brothers and sister, who were amongst the first victims of her infernal art. The house has just been demolished. It may be remembered that when Brinvilliers was arrested, a most searching investigation was made by the judicial authorities into every circumstance connected with her past career; but it is clear that they very imperfectly searched her house. This is the more singular, as it was always a matter of curious inquiry what could have become of her brothers and sister.

The doom of Westminster Bridge, pronounced by the last government, has been this week confirmed by the new administration. Sir William Molesworth, in reply to the inquiry of one of the members for Westminster, stated that a new bridge was to be built, "wide, low, and at right angles to the Houses of Parliament," and that the operations would commence during the present year. The stone balustrades and alcoves have been for some time removed to relieve the pressure on the arches. The whole fabric, already in ruinous condition, will be soon swept away, but the many literary and historical associations connected with it will long remain.

The French Government has at last resolved to have a grand Exhibition of the Manufactures of All Nations. It is to open on the 1st May, 1855, and to close on the 30th September following. It will be held in a "crystal palace" now building in the Champs Elysées. In connexion with this subject it may be mentioned that the "industrial artists" of France are earnestly pressing on the Government to allow them to have a special exhibition of artistic designs for all descriptions of manufactures, and of all sorts of articles recently produced by them.

The Nelson correspondence, comprising about three hundred letters from Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton, the last written on board the Victory,

dated 19th and 20th October, 1805, letters from distinguished naval officers and public persons to Lord Nelson, and the correspondence of the Queen of Naples with Lady Hamilton, are to be sold by auction by Messrs. Leigh Sotheby and Wilkinson, at their literary mart, Wellington-street, on Thursday, the 31st March, and two following days. Some other important literary sales are announced, of which notice will be given nearer the time.

Mr. Robert Patterson, of Belfast, has just issued a very useful and intelligent set of 'Questions' referring to his 'Zoology for Schools,' printed for the use of the Commissioners of National Education for Ireland. At the end of the year 1851 there were 4704 schools in operation, attended by 520,400 children, all having the first principles of zoology brought under their consideration, more or less, through these simple elementary means.

Dr. Orfila, the most eminent medical chemist of France, has just died. In addition to his distinguished scientific attainments, he was well known for several important works on Toxicology, and on medical questions in connexion with the administration of the criminal law. Only a few weeks back, it may be remembered, he distributed a large portion of his fortune amongst different scientific institutions. He was a Spaniard by birth, but naturalised a Frenchman.

The Grand Duke of Mecklenburg has decreed that his subjects shall not be allowed to read any works whatsoever that have been, or may be, published by a certain bookseller at Hamburg!

Dr. Forbes Winslow, whose name stands high in medical literature, as well as in professional position, has been elected President of the Medical Society of London.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ANTIQUARIES.—*March 10th.*—Captain W. H. Smyth, V.P., in the chair. Mr. Taddy Tomlin and Mr. O. Tudor were elected Fellows. Mr. Almack, a Fellow, presented three proclamations, as a contribution to the Society's already extensive collections in the course of arrangement. They consisted of, 1. A proclamation by the Lord Mayor and Common Council of London, offering a reward of five hundred pounds for the discovery of the person or persons who had "offered an indignity to the portrait of his Royal Highness the Duke of York in Guildhall." 2. A proclamation by the King for "Quieting the Post-Master General and his Deputies." 3. A proclamation, dated 26th July, 1685, "summoning George Speake, Esq., Colonel Danvers, John Trenchard, Esq., and other gentlemen compromised in Monmouth's rebellion." The Rev. Joseph Goodall exhibited a small bronze head of a man, discovered in a field in Bedfordshire, supposed to have formed the weight of a balance or steelyard. The Rev. Thomas Hugo exhibited a celt and a spear-head of bronze, found at Preston in Lincolnshire. Mr. Chaffers exhibited some very singular objects in lead, found recently in Paris during excavations near the Louvre. One of these represented the figure of a man lying within a sarcophagus, with a long cross resting on his arm, and wearing a conical cap. Another figure had also a conical cap, and held a long saw. A third was the figure of a bishop with mitre and crosier, his breast being covered with strange figures resembling astrological signs. Dr. Lukis resumed and concluded his remarks on the Megalithic structures of the primeval period. There are certain anomalous forms to be found in most countries, often in the immediate proximity of those which he had already defined as affording truly Celtic characteristics. In order to know that an anomaly actually exists, it is necessary to ascertain what is the true type. With this view, he had circulated among the Fellows of the Society a chart defining that type (see 'Lit. Gaz.' No. 1885), which he trusted would be found of considerable practicable utility. He was aware of the difficulties which enveloped this subject—difficulties which, like those encountered in every other study, cannot be surmounted at once. He had invited criticism in freely circulating a synoptical view

intended to embrace the whole of the works of a people so widely diffused as the Celtic race; but, if attention to the subjects during the last fifteen years was any guarantee for the accuracy of such a table, his labour had not been in vain. He considered, however, that the rules therein laid down would be found as simple and as brief as was consistent with accuracy, while they were of the utmost importance in restricting our nomenclature to definite objects. Cromlechs, properly so called, lie in a direction east and west, but if any deviation from this occurs, the direction is found to incline in nearly every instance to the south-east and north-west. But this does not constitute the anomaly: it is found in a structure at first view resembling the cromlech, which, while in the immediate vicinity of cromlechs all lying east and west, does itself lie north and south, or at right angles to the former. But let any one examine such a structure, and it will pretty constantly present those features which serve to distinguish it at once from the former. For instance, there occurs one of these on the plain of Lanerresse in Guernsey, which for some time was conceived to be a cromlech, but when the spade had been freely used, it was found to be a succession of cists with recumbent supports, each cist about five feet square, and separated from its fellow by a rude somewhat rectangular block, extending from side to side, in the manner of those transverse blocks in the cromlech at Gavri Innis, &c. This remarkable cromlech lies likewise north and south; and he had plans of similar anomalies, which it would be perceived were neither cromlechs nor cists, but, like the latter, have the sides closed. He rather inclined to the belief that all these were of more recent date, and one fact was remarkable, that much pottery was seldom found in them. In the ordinary compound cists, which are grouped, urns are found in abundance, and besides these in the single cists, some beautiful stone celts, &c. Again, in the Dolmen are found sometimes, as in Kitt's Cottly House, and the chambers of the structure from Jersey (now at Henley-on-Thames), that one side is intentionally left open. This shows us that the cist was not the structure intended, but in fact the Dolmen, having at least one side open. It is not necessary to attach new names to these structures, for upon such trifling differences might new appellations be given to every individual specimen. It is evident that they are but modifications of an original idea which is universal, and as these tombs have different dates of construction, and in a great measure depend upon the nature of the rock and the shape of its blocks, there are necessarily varieties in form, &c. But one thing is pretty evident, and fully proved by examples in the Channel Islands, that the shape of the cist depended frequently upon the form of the intended cap-stone, and was planned accordingly. In a cist in Guernsey, called by the significant name of "Le Tombeau du Grand Sarasin," the sides of which are formed of laterally recumbent blocks, about thirty urns were found, of various sizes, and among them the smallest specimen ever found in the islands. The ware of all was thinner than usual, and free from ornamental markings. Two pieces of pure white, opaque, shining, opalized wood were among the relics, but whether of mediæval importation it was not possible to determine. They were unwrought. The care with which they preserved the cromlechs in the state of hollow vaults, so as to receive periodical interments, is fully seen in a curious circumstance connected with the very interesting and remarkably instructive cromlech "Dehus." The second cap-stone in size and importance was observed by the builders to have a flaw passing obliquely through its northern extremity, which rendered it unsafe, as in the event of a separation occurring between the opposing surfaces in the flaw, it must of necessity fall into the vault beneath. To avoid such an accident we find a prop accurately placed within the vault beneath the larger portion, and still supporting it. In the course of time the smaller piece became detached, and fell upon the contents beneath, crushing several urns, &c., one of which is represented in the plan as it was when

discovered, and in the water-colour drawing as when it was restored. This singular cromlech has afforded a multitude of valuable and interesting points of study. Dr. Lukis then, in conclusion, remarked at considerable length on the personal ornaments discovered by him in the ancient sepulchres of the Channel Islands. Of these he gave a list as follows:—

Classification of Celtic Stone Implements, not Personal Ornaments.	
Mullers, or Rounded Grindstones.	Without lateral depressions. With one or two depressions on each side.
Long Stones.	Flat, worn at an angle at one or both sides of the ends. Cylindrical. Rubbed or fractured at one or both ends. Larger than the above. Used as hammers; with marks or evidences of use on the sides of the larger end.
Grinding-troughs.	Troughs oval.
Weights.	With one or more surrounding grooves. Perforated { in the centre.
Hammer-head.	Single. } Handle attached externally.
Adze-edge or point.	Double. } Perforated to receive handle.
Hatchet-head.	Celtic? { Single. } Handle attached externally.
	Double. } Perforated to receive handle.
Compound.	Hammer-hatchet. { Axe-hammer. Occasionally very large; one side pointed.
	Axe-hatchet. One side being pointed, as in specimens found in Guernsey and Jersey. (This last very rare.)
Stone Celts.	Sides rough, rectangular (Scandinavian type.)
	Somewhat constantly triangular. Sides rounded. (British and Gaulish type.)
Knife, Saw, Spear point or head, Arrow-point or head.	In both the latter instruments some are barbed, and usually of flint and quartz.
Flint flakes.	

A jet bracelet of a highly decomposable alloy of copper was discovered in one of the cromlechs, in which were also found a vast quantity of limpet-shells, and the bones of various fishes which had evidently formed the food of the primitive inhabitants of these islands. At the close of the lecture Mr. Akerman observed that the testimony of Dr. Lukis, as to the discovery of the bones of fishes among the early Celtic remains, was of especial interest to the ethnologist, since Herodias has stated of our rude forefathers, that although the sea abounded with fish, it was never used by them as food. The statement of Dr. Lukis appeared to throw considerable doubt on the assertion of Herodias, but, on the other hand, we had the remarkable fact on record in our time, that during the prevalence of famine in Ireland, the population starved while fine turbot might be taken in abundance just off the coast.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—*March 4th.*—Octavius Morgan, Esq., M.P., Vice-President, in the chair. A Memoir was read by Mr. H. O'Neill, 'On the Remarkable Early Christian Monuments found in various parts of Ireland.' The sculptured wayside crosses, and those found near ancient churches and monastic establishments in that country, are very numerous, presenting remarkable variety in their ornaments, the devices of sacred symbolism, as well as in the subjects of Scripture history, or the legends connected with the earliest times of the introduction of Christianity, represented with elaborate detail of design upon these curious monuments. Their date, Mr. O'Neill stated, had been supposed to range between the fifth and twelfth centuries; the precise age can be indeed accurately ascertained in few instances. The remarkable crosses at Monasterboice and Clonmacnoise, which may be cited as the most striking examples, have been ascribed, with some degree of certainty, to the ninth, or, at the latest, to the tenth century. The first of these is of unusual dimensions, measuring not less than twenty-five feet in height. In England, few remains of a similar kind, or of equal importance, have been preserved to the present time; the sculptured crosses at Sandbach, in Cheshire, and a few other early examples, may be mentioned; and such monu-

ments occur more frequently in Wales, as also in Scotland, where many remarkable sculptures of the earliest Christian age have been made known to the antiquary through the valuable and accurate publications due to the liberality of Mr. Patrick Chalmers of Auldbar. Monuments of this nature are necessarily much exposed to accidental injury and the decay of time, rendering it very desirable that faithful representations should be preserved; and Mr. O'Neill has been engaged on the praiseworthy object of collecting accurate delineations of the best examples found in Ireland, which he intends shortly to publish by subscription. He exhibited a selection from these drawings at the present meeting. Mr. W. W. Wynne, M.P., gave a report of the extensive excavations, under his direction, on the site of Castell y Bere, a fortress of considerable extent in Merionethshire. The remains of that castle, where Edward I. resided during part of his campaign in 1284, had fallen so completely into decay as to present only a few shapeless masses of masonry, noticed by Pennant as presenting scarcely any feature of interest. The researches carried out by Mr. Wynne had brought to light, however, architectural details, sculptured capitals and mouldings, proving that this stronghold had been equal, if not superior, to any military work of its age in the principality. About one third of the area has been laid open, and Mr. Wynne purposes to resume the work during the ensuing season; he exhibited numerous relics, weapons, implements, pottery, and various objects, supposed to be chiefly of the time of Edward I. Mr. Nesbitt described the shrine of St. Manchán, one of the most highly enriched examples of elaborate metal-work existing in Ireland; and he exhibited facsimile models of this curious work, as also of the cross of Cong, which presents considerable analogy in the details of ornament. The shrine is in the form of a small chapel, covered with chased decorations, figures in high relief, and richly coloured enamels introduced in parts. The saint whose relics it contained died in 644; he was abbot of Leith, in King's County, and although never canonized, has always been held in extreme veneration. Through Mr. Nesbitt's researches this singular work of early Irish art, attributed to the twelfth century, has been brought under the notice of antiquaries; and it has recently been conveyed to Dublin by Dr. Lenthaigne, to be placed in the Museum of Antiquities now in course of formation by the noble President of the Institute, as a division of the Great Industrial Exhibition at Dublin, to be opened in May. Lord Talbot has already secured some of the most striking objects of this nature, which will form, in conjunction with the museum of the Royal Irish Academy, placed at his disposal for this occasion, a most important and instructive display of Irish antiquities. Mr. Edward Freeman gave an account of recent discoveries at the Priory church of Leominster, in course of which the entire plan of the original Norman structure had been laid open, presenting some remarkable details of arrangement, of which no vestige remained discernible, the entire eastern portion of the fabric having been demolished soon after the dissolution. During the last autumn, at the suggestion of Mr. Freeman, extensive excavations had taken place, and the results had excited much interest in the county of Hereford. A pavement of decorative tiles had been uncovered, with various remains, which will be carefully preserved. A communication was received from Dr. Bell, relating to the bronze gates of the cathedral of Hildesheim, in Hanover, bearing date 1015, and a bronze column in the adjacent cathedral close, on which are represented subjects of sacred history, arranged in a spiral band. Dr. Bell exhibited engravings portraying these curious works of art; and gave some account of another remarkable work in bronze, the sculptured gates at Novgorod, traditionally believed to have been brought from Cherson, in the Crimea, by Vladimir the Great, in 988. Mr. Franks produced an impression from a beautiful engraved brass plate, part of a sepulchral memorial, a work of Flemish execution, similar to those at St. Albans, at Lynn, and at Lubec. This plate, of which the date is supposed

to be about 1350, has been lately purchased by the Trustees of the British Museum at the sale of the collection of the late Mr. Pugin. The Hon. W. Fox Strangways exhibited a facsimile of another engraved sepulchral memorial, of singular design, existing in a church at Surrey. Mr. Yates described some interesting Roman remains discovered near Wiesbaden, and preserved in the Museum at that place. The Rev. C. F. Wyatt sent a drawing and account of a miniature sepulchral effigy, found a few months since in the chancel of Blechingdon church, Oxfordshire. A curious limning, a design for an enamelled badge of office, to be worn by Norroy king-at-arms, was shown by Mr. M. A. Lower, of Lewes. It was probably executed by Rotier, for Sir William Dugdale, in the reign of Charles II., whose arms and cipher it bears. Mr. Trollope sent representations of several Saxon urns, elaborately ornamented, lately found in the eastern parts of England. They bear much resemblance to the vases exhibited in Mr. Neville's splendid work on "Saxon Obsequies." Mr. Brackstone contributed several rare objects of bronze; and Mr. Wynne brought a leaden plate, bearing an inscription in Hebrew characters, found in Wales. Sir Philip de Grey Egerton called attention to the discovery of several paintings in fresco in Gaws-worth church, Cheshire, of which he produced coloured lithographs by Mr. Lynch, of Macclesfield. A large collection of casts from seals, lately obtained from the college documents at Cambridge, were shown by Mr. Ready, of Lowestoft, comprising many valuable examples hitherto unknown.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—*March 9th.*—James Heywood, Esq., M.P., F.R.S., and V.P., in the chair. Presents were received from the Archaeological Institute, the Chester Archaeological Society, and Thomas Bateman, Esq. Mr. James exhibited a collection of spurs of various dates found in different parts of England. Mr. Bartlett also exhibited specimens of spurs obtained in Berkshire and Wiltshire. Mr. W. Meyrick laid before the Association a beautiful specimen of armour made in imitation of the puffed and slashed dresses common in the early part of the sixteenth century. Sir S. Meyrick had a specimen of this kind figured in his work, and there are three small portions in the Tower, but they are very inferior to Mr. Meyrick's, which consists of a jesset suitable for a boy about seven or eight years of age, engraved and elaborately inlaid with gold like a piece of jeweller's work. He possesses also another portion for the arm of this suit. Mr. Meyrick also exhibited a pass-guard pauldron of the time of Henry VIII., of fine form, russeted and inlaid with gold, representing a battle-piece, and a magnificent sword of the time of Elizabeth, having twelve heads set as medallions over the hilt and pommel, the latter of which is of very elegant design. The whole has been minutely inlaid and studded with a small scroll pattern in gold. This sword was discovered a few years ago hidden behind the wainscot of a house in Berkshire, then inhabited by a turner, who broke off about six inches of the blade for the purpose of converting it into a tool for his business. Mr. Bartlett exhibited two Roman horseshoes, the place where found unknown. Mr. Bateman exhibited a peculiarly formed brooch, in the shape of a coronet, with six points, on the top of each of which there is a space for a portion of coloured glass, one setting only now being left, and it is of a blue colour. Mr. Bateman considers it to belong to the later Anglo-Saxon period. Mr. Ashtel exhibited one found at Maidstone lately, of a similar description, which, though unique as to form, was conjectured to be Roman. Mr. Bateman also exhibited a carved ivory knife-handle of the time of Charles II., exceedingly interesting, as representing the female dress of that period. The execution is beautiful. Mr. Gunston laid upon the table a variety of specimens of Roman antiquity, said to have been obtained from excavations made in the City of London. They have been subjected to a rigid scrutiny by the council, and Mr. Syer Cuming read a report upon the specimens, showing

whence many have been obtained, and detailing a system of deception now being extensively carried on in these matters. Two men concerned in this nefarious proceeding have been detected, and the Association are laudably engaged in still further inquiring into it. The Rev. Mr. Hugo exhibited three remarkably fine stone celts, lately obtained from Ireland, and exhibiting the only known types found in that country. They were obtained from Clontarf, near Dublin. Mr. Tucker exhibited a pint pot of the time of Queen Anne, found in the Thames, at the removal of Old London Bridge. Engraved on it were "Richard Smith att y^e Three Neots Tongs on London Bridge." The remainder of the evening was occupied in reading the first portion of a paper 'On the Origin and Antiquity of Playing Cards,' together with a description of a pack printed in the time of the Commonwealth, representing the principal personages of that period, and the remarkable events of the time. The paper was by Mr. Pettigrew, and was enriched with biographical and historical notices. The remaining portion will be read at the next meeting, March 23rd.

NUMISMATIC.—*March 17th.*—Dr. Lee, LL.D., in the chair. Mr. John Evans read a paper 'On some Rare and Unpublished early British Coins,' and exhibited to the Society drawings and casts of them. One, from the library of Trinity College, Cambridge, in gold, bore the legend *o. tasci*. On the obverse, and *tasc* on the reverse. It resembles a coin purchased by the British Museum at Lord Holmesdale's sale, and which is published in the 'Num. Chron.,' vol. xiv. p. 74. The legend on this coin is *o. ando*, and the type on this and the one first noticed is the same. It is probable, therefore, that, while the first legend refers to Tasciovanus, the second applies to some other prince who was contemporary with him. Mr. Evans suggests that this name may lurk under the Mandubratius of Cæsar, who is called by Orosius, Androgrius, and by Eutropius, Bada, and later writers, Androgrius. Mr. Evans, at the conclusion of a very interesting paper, in which he noticed several other specimens of the British coinage, made some just remarks on the carelessness and incorrectness of the descriptions and engravings in the 'Monumenta Historica Britannica,' edited by T. D. Hardy, Lond. fol. 1840. "It is much to be regretted," said Mr. Evans, "that in a work professing to treat of our national monuments, and published at no small national expense, the part devoted to a subject of so much importance as the ancient British coinage, should be so small, that nearly one half of the known inscribed types are omitted, while the uninscribed are wholly passed over. Still more is it to be lamented that, among the limited number of coins given, one should be a fabrication, and the inscription on the other completely metamorphosed."

Mr. Vaux read a paper, communicated by R. S. Poole, Esq., of the British Museum, 'On the Copper Coinage of the Byzantine Emperors,' the object of which was the explanation of a coin of Justinian I., and of another of Heraclius I. The writer took notice of the great fluctuations to which this branch of the coinage was subject under the Constantinopolitan empire, and entered at some length into the question of the actual values of the copper coins. He supposed the unit of the system to be the "Nummion" or "Lepton," and that the numerical indices on the coins indicated the number of these units which each of them contained. He noticed also the differences between the system of Alexandria and that of the other cities of the empire which struck money. The coins considered were of the Alexandrian mint, the earlier of them being, probably, an obolus, and the later a piece of the value of twelve "nummia" in Egypt, and of forty "nummia" in the rest of the Empire at that period, the money of the other mints having become depreciated in weight, while that of Alexandria had remained unaltered.

Mr. J. G. Pfister exhibited a very large and fine bronze Italian medallion, dated 1598, and made by Antonio Casoni of Ancona, in honour of Cardinal

Pietro Aldobrandini, and in commemoration of his taking Ferrara, as general of the Papal troops, Jan. 28, 1598. On the obverse is a well executed bust of the Cardinal, on the reverse a winter landscape, the city of Ferrara in the distance, and the Cardinal on horseback surrounded by his troops.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN.—*March 8th.*—Dr. J. Lee in the chair. Extracts from a letter from Mr. Harmsd Rassam, dated Nimrud, November 20th, 1882, were read. The excavations at Nimrud had been re-opened, and a fine bas-relief, with Assyrian warriors hunting a lion, had been found. It is so well preserved as to look like the work of yesterday. Fragments of other bas-reliefs of superior workmanship had also been found. Also several ivory beads, most beautifully cut, one of them gilt over with thin gold. Excavations were also being carried on at Kouyunjik (Nineveh), but the excavators were only rewarded by tablets of clay covered with small cuneiform characters. The French are very zealous in their researches; they believe that they have found, at Khorsabad, the very chariot of Asshur! They are excavating in four or five different mounds. The Turkish Government has also, strange to say, turned archaeological, and commenced excavating the mound called Nabhi Yunus, or of the prophet Jonah, to the great annoyance of the more devout Mussulmen! The country was in a state of great disorder on account of the rebellion of Hudjir, one of the chiefs of the Shamir Arabs. The Turks have, in imitation of the Austrians, and as a mode of raising revenue, established a quarantine at Birsijih, on the Euphrates.

2. A note was read from Mr. Abington, suggesting that the cone in the hand of the well-known colossal Assyrian figures was used as an aspergillum for the lustration of those who entered the temples, the metal pail in the left hand containing the lustral water. The Greeks used a branch of laurel or olive for the same purpose, and the Romans a cow's tail, as is to be seen on the frieze of the temple of Jupiter Stator at Rome.

3. The Rev. Mr. Turnbull read a paper 'On Damascus.' The extraordinary antiquity of this city, combined with its peculiarly beautiful situation, render it an object of universal interest. The Emperor Julian describes it as "the eye of all the East;" and Mahomet refrained from entering it, lest he should have his paradise on earth alone. Moses records circumstances connected with Damascus in the time of Abraham. The author derived the name from two Hebrew words, *דמק* (*Damah*) and *מקק* (*Mashkah*), a watered plain, which describes the situation of *דמק*, or *Damascus*, the name it has retained for 4000 years. *Uz*, eldest son of *Aram*, was probably the founder; his brother *Hul* settling on the streams of Hermon, and giving his name to the land of *Huleh* to this day; *Gether* or *Theger* and *Mash*, the other sons of *Aram*, giving their names to the *Tigris* and the *Masius* mountains. Damascus for many ages was the capital of Syria, and a great mart of commerce, and has experienced many vicissitudes under different possessors,—as Tiglath-pileser, Sennacherib, Pompey, and Tamerlane; but, since 1506, has been in possession of the Turks. The city is in length about two miles and a half, and in breadth three-quarters of a mile, is beautifully situated in an extensive plain, at the foot of the mountains of Lebanon, from whence the river *Barrady*, or ancient *Pharpar*, flows, which passes by different streams through the city, distributing verdure and refreshment to every garden and dwelling. The street called "*Straight*" in the time of the Apostle Paul still continues under that name, and the houses of Judas and Ananias are said to be still existing. The exterior of the dwellings is generally devoid of taste or symmetry; but the interior is usually very agreeable, and many of the houses are fitted up in a style of rich luxury. Of the public buildings, the great mosque in the centre of the city is the most conspicuous amidst a forest of minarets and cupolas belonging to the rest. The khans or hotels are distinguished for their accommodations to travellers, and the

facilities they afford for commercial transactions of merchants of various nations. The cafes are remarkable for being most agreeably situated, generally on the margins of the streams which flow through the city. The author suggested that the ancient foundations of Damascus might at some future period, as knowledge advances in the East, afford some instructive additions to the ancient remains of Nineveh and Babylon. The paper was illustrated by several views of the city, and its public and private edifices; and gave rise to very interesting communications from Dr. Yates on the present state of Damascus. The Doctor had to regret that no attention is paid to sanitary regulations, whereby fevers now frequent might be prevented. Dr. Lee, and other members who had formerly visited Damascus, gave some interesting details of their sojourn there.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—*March 9th.*—Henry Cole, Esq., C.B., in the chair. Mr. William Stones, of Queenhithe, read a paper 'On the Materials and Machinery employed in the Manufacture of Paper.' After alluding to the different substances upon which the ancients were accustomed to record their thoughts, the author proceeded to trace the history of the manufacture of paper from pulp, said to have been invented in China about the commencement of the Christian era, from whence it was carried to Mecca in the beginning of the eighth century, and thence by the Arabs to Spain in the end of the ninth or beginning of the tenth century. The first paper-mill in Germany was established at Nuremberg in 1390. In our own country the earliest trace of the manufacture occurred in a book printed by Caxton about the year 1470. The materials employed in the manufacture came next under consideration; linen or materials made of flax, either in the state of new pieces or old fabrics, was particularly valuable for the strength which it imparted to the paper. Cotton was too valuable in its state as imported, to be used in this manufacture, and was generally obtained from old white or printed goods. Flax and cotton waste, also used very largely, were the portions of the raw materials not available for being made up into woven fabrics. Hemp, or rope in the untarred state, was a very valuable material; when tarred, it was used for brown paper principally. Specimens of paper from the plantain were exhibited, as also of wood; and it was observed that any fibrous vegetable substance, as the inner bark of trees, the stalks of the nettle, the tendrils of the vine, the bine of the hop, might be used, but that up to a very recent period no material had been found to answer so well as linen, hempen, or cotton rags. Woollen cloth or silk could not be beaten into a suitable pulp, wool particularly giving a hairy texture to the surface. Lately, however, straw had been made available in the manufacture of paper; and the specimens exhibited showed that ere long it would, if it had not already, become a formidable rival to the old established materials. The operations of cutting the rags into shreds, their subsequent dusting in machines, and the boiling in an alkaline ley, for the purpose of cleansing the materials, were described. The rags were then subjected to the further process of comminution on the engine, which was supplied with a constant stream of water, so that by continual revolutions the rags were thoroughly washed. After bleaching, which was effected with chlorine, the material was subjected to another grinding, until finally reduced to fine pulp. The process of making by hand was briefly described. The pulp was allowed to flow into a vessel of stone, and kept moderately warm by means of a steam pipe, and continually in motion by a wooden agitator. From this vessel the maker collected on a frame, covered with wire gauze, the desired quantity of pulp, and by a gentle shaking motion compacted the material into paper; the water was expressed, the paper hung up to dry, after which it was sized by saturation, the superfluous size being pressed out, and the paper parted and slowly dried, by which the size thoroughly penetrated the paper. The mode of making paper by machinery was next described,

and the passage of the pulp through the knottor or strainer, on to the continuous wire, to the continuous felt, and thence on to the drying cylinders, was explained. It was stated that Fourdrinier's horizontal cylinder machine was the one most generally used in this country. The sheets were then sorted, folded, and packed in reams, weighed by the revenue officer, and charged with a duty of three halfpence a pound and five per cent. It appeared that at the present time there were about 304 paper-mills at work in England, 48 in Scotland, and 23 in Ireland. The duty amounted to upwards of 925,000*l.*, so that the annual value of paper manufactured in this country could not be less than 3,700,000*l.*, the average value of paper being estimated at sixpence per pound. The Secretary announced that at the meeting of Wednesday next a paper would be read 'On Gas Stoves for Domestic Purposes,' by Mr. J. O. N. Rutter.

GEOLOGICAL.—*March 9th.*—Prof. E. Forbes, President, in the chair. The following communications were read:—1. 'On the Albert Coal Mine, Hilsborough, New Brunswick,' by J. W. Dawson, Esq. Communicated by Sir C. Lyell, V.P.G.S. According to Mr. Dawson's observations, the evidences of superposition, mineral characters, and fossils, concur in placing the shales of the Albert Mine in the lower part of the carboniferous system, and these shales seem to occupy the centre of an anticlinal running out from the metamorphic schists of Shepody Mountains into a carboniferous country. Mr. Dawson gives a detailed description of the mine, and of the containing beds of shale, &c.; and, in explanation of the phenomena observed, he supposes that the "Albertite" occupies a fissure running along an anticlinal bend of the strata; and that, apart from the character of the mineral and the containing beds, this would be the most natural explanation. On the other hand, says the author, when we consider the contorted condition of the beds, indicating disturbance when in a soft state, and the slickenside joints pointing to subsequent shifts, we cannot refuse to admit that a conformable bed of true coal, if subjected before and after its consolidation to such movements, might present all the appearances of complication and disturbance observed in this mass, more especially if originally of small extent, and thinning out towards the edges. With this view we should have to suppose (1.) disturbance and contortion of the beds whilst soft, and at the point in question a regular and somewhat abrupt arching of the beds; (2.) a fault, throwing down the south side of the arch along a line coinciding in part of its course with the highly inclined underside of the coal at the north side of the arch; and (3.) removal of the upper part of the north side of the arch by denudation. The author then proceeds to describe the characters of the mineral in detail. He considers it, not without doubt, as pitch-coal. He gives a comparative assay of it, and of jet from Whitley, and shows a similarity of constitution, which he considers to indicate similarity of origin. He has not been able to detect organized structure in it under the microscope, although such is stated to occur by Mr. Bacon, of Boston. Respecting the origin and mode of formation, he remarks that two alternatives present themselves; 1st, the substance may have resulted from the hardening and oxidation of liquid or fused bitumen, after the manner of asphaltum; and, 2dly, it may, like jet and other coals, have resulted from the bituminization of woody matter under the long action of moisture and pressure. Mr. Dawson discusses the probabilities of each hypothesis, and remarks that each is accompanied by serious difficulties. After a careful consideration of the circumstances of the case, he adheres to the second view, not, however, without hesitation. 2. 'On the Carcharodon and other Fish Remains in the Red Crag,' by S. V. Wood, Esq., F.G.S. With respect to the large shark-teeth found in the Red Crag of Suffolk, and evidently derived, like other fossil organic remains found in that deposit, from some pre-existing formation, Mr. Wood states that he has obtained specimens, and seen others in the collections of his

friends, with the enamel in so perfect a condition, that he considers himself justified in supposing that these large fish-teeth of the Crag were never furnished with serrated edges; and therefore that they are not identical with the teeth of the *Carcharodon megalodon* of the middle tertiary of Malta, as has been hitherto conjectured to be the case. Other differences of character are also noticed by Mr. Wood, and he regards the Crag tooth as belonging to a distinct species of shark, which he proposes to term *Carcharodon nobilidens*. The author further suggests that probably these teeth have been derived from the London clay; he also treats of the probable length of the fossil Carcharodons, and notices at length the geological and geographical distribution of these and other sharks.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—*March 14th.*—Sir R. I. Murchison, President, in the chair. Mr. M. J. Brickdale, Barrister-at-law, Capt. R. Gordon, R.N., Capt. E. Harris, R.N., Her Majesty's Consul for Chili, Mr. G. H. Strutt, and Capt. J. J. Widdington, R.N., were elected Fellows. Among the donations to the library received since the previous meeting, particular mention was made of the 'Report of a Geological Survey of Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota,' by D. D. Owen, United States Geologist, and accompanied by a separate volume of very beautiful illustrations, presented to the Society by the Hon. E. Everett. The paper read was 'On the Great Isthmus of Central America,' by Captain Robert Fitz-Roy, R.N., F.R.S., F.R.G.S., illustrated by Mr. Arrowsmith and others. Captain Fitz-Roy hoped that the Society would not think him unduly tedious if he attempted to fulfil, at some length, an important task undertaken at the desire of the President. He referred to his former paper ('On the Central American Isthmus'), read to the Geographical Society in November, 1859, and afterwards printed in the 'Journal,' expressing a hope that the present paper might be considered as only supplementary to the former. After some introductory and general remarks, Captain Fitz-Roy took a brief view of seven lines of proposed inter-oceanic communication. He then mentioned the novel and important information recently received from Mr. Gisborne and Dr. Cullen, and he showed that whatever preference might have been given formerly, in 1850, to the Atrato and Cupica line for a shorter communication, there is no argument that can be adduced in favour of that line that does not apply with far greater effect to the line proposed between the Gulf of San Miguel and the almost classical locality formerly named by Paterson (who founded the Scotch colony on the Isthmus, and the Bank of England) Caledonian Harbour. Captain Fitz-Roy then examined the geographical details of that part of the Isthmus, gave a sketch of the present state of our knowledge of the vicinity, and a brief outline of its history. He then entered into considerations of the nature and feasibility of a canal of such a gigantic scale as is contemplated by Sir Charles Fox, Messrs. Henderson, Brassey, Cullen, and Gisborne. He alluded to the labour attainable, to the possibility of employing convicts, and to the prudence of establishing military organization to a certain extent, for the sake of order, and, possibly, defensive measures. He then referred to the two great impediments to such an undertaking, the native aborigines and the climate; and he showed by what means those obstacles might be greatly lessened. He then referred to Mr. Gisborne's opinions of the size and nature of such a canal, and advanced others somewhat at variance with them. He referred to the claims of other companies, to certain legal doubts that should be solved, and to the general character and objects of an enterprise so important that (when a survey shall have fully proved the whole case) Government will doubtless assist the undertaking, and all maritime nations will eagerly unite in guaranteeing its absolute neutrality. The President announced that he had directed cards to be issued to the Fellows of the Society for his annual *soirées* on the 21st of this and the 4th of next month, and adjourned the meeting to the 11th of April.

ENTOMOLOGICAL. — *March 7th.* — E. Newman, Esq., President, in the chair. J. N. Winter, Esq., and M. H. F. de Saussure, of Geneva, were elected members. Among the numerous donations were many species of British *Lepidoptera*, and a quantity of European Diurnal *Lepidoptera*. The President announced that the Society offered a prize of five guineas for the best Essay on the natural history of the species of *Coccus* injurious to fruit trees in this country, especially to include a full and particular account of the 'mussel-scale' of the apple, and the best means of preventing their attacks. The Essays to be delivered, under the usual regulations, on or before 31st December next. Mr. Spence exhibited specimens of a *Thrips*, received by Dr. Lankester from Dr. Theophilus Thomson, to whom they were sent from Australia, where they prevent the roses from flowering by eating through the petals of the buds. Mr. S. Stevens exhibited two rare *Coleoptera* from Australia, *Apsara semicrudum* and *Calodena Kirbii*, Hope. Mr. T. Spencer exhibited a specimen of the rare sphinx, *Chorocampa celerio*, caught in the Regent's Park last October, and a scorpion found in a field at Edgware. Mr. Douglas, for Mr. A. R. Hogan of Dublin, exhibited a specimen of *Hipparchia Janira*, with six whitish bodies attached to the haustellum. The President said these appendages were pollen masses of *Orchis bifolia*, which had adhered by means of the viscid matter at their base. Examples on bees as well as *Lepidoptera* were not unfrequently met with in this country, and pollen masses of *Asclepiads* in much greater number were often seen on exotic bees. Read, 'Notes on Impaired Insects, and on the Larvæ of *Polyommatus Artaxerxes*,' by Professor Zeller, Honorary Member of the Society. 'A Monograph of the Hymenopterous Genus *Cryptocerus*,' by F. Smith, Esq. In this memoir fourteen new species are added, making the total number now known to be thirty-four, and all of them are illustrated by an outline figure. Three new genera are proposed for certain species. The petition of the Royal and other learned Societies, praying that Government would provide for them all apartments in juxtaposition, was laid on the table for the signature of the Members. The new part of the Society's 'Transactions' was announced to be ready.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Monday.*—Statistical, 8 p.m.—(Anniversary.)—(Colonel Sykes, V.P., on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice in India.)
 — Chemical, 8 p.m.
 — London Institution, 7 p.m.—(C. V. Walker, Esq., on Electric Telegraphs.)
 — School of Mines.—(Natural History, 1 p.m.)—(Mining, 3 p.m.)
Tuesday.—Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ p.m.
 — Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.—(1. Adjourned Discussion on Mr. D. K. Clark's Experimental Investigation of the Principles of Locomotive Boilers; 2. Mr. Sewell, on Locomotive Boilers.)
 — Institute of Actuaries, 7 p.m.—(E. J. Farren, Esq., V.P., on the Reliability of Data, when Tested by the Conclusions to which they lead.)
 — Zoological, 9 p.m.
 — Meteorological, 7 p.m.
 — School of Mines.—(Chemistry, 11 a.m.)—(Mineralogy, 1 p.m.)—(Geology, 3 p.m.)
Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 8 p.m.
 — Geological, 8½ p.m.—(1. Colonel Hencken, on the Geology of St. Domingo—communicated by J. C. Moore, Esq.; with Notice of the Corals, by W. Lonsdale, Esq., F.G.S.; 2. R. A. C. Austen, Esq., Sec. G.S., on the Anthraciferous Deposits of the Boulonnais; 3. Signor C. Ribeiro and D. Sharpe, Esq., F.G.S., on the Geology of Bussão, Portugal.)
 — R. S. Literature, 4½ p.m.—(Réunion des Arts—Soirée.)
 — Archaeological Association, 8½ p.m.
 — School of Mines.—(Metallurgy, 11 a.m.)—(Mineralogy, 1 p.m.)—(Mining, 3 p.m.)
Thursday.—London Institution, 7 p.m.—(W. R. Bexfield, Esq., on Music.)
 — Department of Practical Art, 8 p.m.—(Dr. Percy, on the Application of the Metals to the Colouring and Decoration of Pottery and Porcelain.)
 — School of Mines.—(Chemistry, 11 a.m.)—(Mineralogy, 1 p.m.)—(Geology, 3 p.m.)
Friday.—School of Mines.—(Metallurgy, 11 a.m.)—(Natural History, 1 p.m.)—(Mining, 3 p.m.)
Saturday.—Medical, 8 p.m.

FINE ARTS.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

THE Exhibition of this Society, which opened on Monday, at the Portland Gallery, 316, Regent-street, shows a slight increase upon last year in the number of pictures contributed, which has advanced from 381 to 410, and an influx of larger proportion on the part of the artists to the number of some twenty, whilst most of the old names again appear in the lists of the catalogue. As before, the Williams's contribute very largely to the collection—Mr. G. A. Williams to the extent of sixteen pictures,—and, as before, the recurrence of so many works as those which appear under this head of the catalogue, most of which bear a similar character, gives a flat and uniform appearance to the assemblage generally, and tends rather to swamp the Exhibition in point of landscape. But justice should be done at the same time to the Society's "hanging committee," who have done their work very well, and distributed their materials over their space with great tact and judgment, and with as much success as the nature of the circumstances permitted.

As a whole, the effect of the Exhibition is superior to that of last year's, though it be not particularly strong in large works of merit. Amongst this class, however, must be ranked the important painting by R. R. M'lan, A.R.S.A. *The Battle of Culloden* (61). When seen at some distance, and taken collectively, there is much to admire in this picture. The ranks of the grenadiers, the same individuals, no doubt, whom we accompany on their march as far as Finchley, on the canvas of Hogarth, re-appear here in very different discipline, and with their left slightly advanced, stand as deliberate and orderly as on parade, and deliver a searching fire into the dense masses of the Highlanders, who are recklessly advancing under the inspiration of headstrong valour only, to their apparently certain destruction. There is method and thought in all this, as in the figure of the daring clansman who has advanced so far on the right of the immediate foreground, where the cavalry are preparing to charge;—the moral of the whole victory is told at a glance, whilst the distinctness of the scene, with its groups of individual contest, reminds the spectator of Marmion's battle, or as Sir Walter's critics have observed, of old Homer himself. It is this plain telling of the story which gratifies us so much in the poem or the romance; but our sophisticated notions require a more *truthful* scene to be presented to the eye. This is not meant invidiously; but whilst few of the numerous spectators and equally numerous admirers of Mr. M'lan's work will have seen actual fighting, most of them will believe that it is a scene of greater riot, of more entangled confusion, such as bewilders all but experienced and military senses, than the present view affords. The difficulty of combining a distinct narrative with this tumultuous impression, which we take to be the legitimate effect of all battle scenes, must be great; the remark was made of Mr. Jones's *Battle of Meeanee* in last year's Academy—but it is not, we imagine, asking too much to require it from such an artist as Mr. M'lan. There is no feebleness or imperfection in the carrying out of the design: the shock of the contest, the excited passions of the men, their dresses and weapons, are all painted with a precision, and at the same time an elevated nobleness, that is impressive and powerful. The merits of the painting are various; and it carries with it a high sense of perfection, if we except, as we have said, that feeling of order and almost conventional regularity which seems inconsistent with the subject.

We notice with much pleasure a picture of considerable pretensions in composition, from the pencil of Mr. Frank Wyburd, with whose small figures and elegant female heads the public is familiar. The subject is *An Incident in the Life of Luther* (23), taken from D'Aubigné's 'History of the Reformation.' Luther is represented as when found, after several days' and nights' self-imposed confinement in his cell, by some friendly monks, who reach him whilst in a state of insensibility from fasting and mental emotion. He is then gradually aroused from

his stupor by the chant of the young chorists, "whose voices," says the historian, "act as a charm upon the poor monk, to whom music was ever one of his greatest pleasures; gradually he recovers his strength, his consciousness, and his life." Most persons will agree that this scene has been treated with great tenderness and feeling by Mr. Wyburd, and with an amount of good painting which is equally pleasing. Amongst the successes is the effect of the red frocks of the chorists seen shining through their surplices. A defect is very apparent in hiding the left arm of the recumbent figure by the awkwardly advanced bench, introduced, it would seem, partly for this purpose, and to give foreground; the boys' faces, too, might be better seen: but, as a whole, it is a most agreeable picture. Query, is the red light on the surplice of the boy entering, intended to represent, as before, the frock appearing through the linen? If so, it is a failure, and looks like the reflection of a lamp, or of sunset outside.

The largest composition in the rooms is an extensive portrait picture, entitled *The Confirmation of His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury* (5), by Jerome Goodrich. It is grievous to pronounce so large and serious a production a failure, yet it is difficult to view it in any other light. The portraits are, so far as we could recognise them, (no key being furnished in the catalogue,) likenesses, but they are not pleasing ones. The design of the artist was well studied, but has been imperfectly carried out; the want of beauty in the women's faces, who do their best to look well, is painfully evident, and the interior fittings of Bow Church are not favourable to the pictorial art, unrelieved as they are by any of those effects of light and shade which are introduced into the trials of Russell and Stradford, and similar scenes. The size alone of this undertaking demands that some notice should be taken of it by the critic.

Forming a sort of pair with Mr. Wyburd's *Luther*, is a picture by Mr. D. W. Deane, called *A Monk instructing others in the Art of Illumination* (33). It is not equal to the companion picture in the amount and delicacy of expression, Mr. Deane's monks wearing a particularly dull and stolid look, but in warmth of colour and general picturesqueness it outmatches the other. A broader pencil and bolder hand characterize all Mr. Deane's productions, though the features of his subjects want animation. In his *Interior, Island of Capri* (94), (why in this island particularly we don't know,) is to be observed the same sense of light and shade, broad handling, and freedom, which promise highly.

In this first room are also some good portraits. Mr. G. Wells's *Portrait of a Lady* (1) looks like life itself, even though the dress wants that firmness and distinctness of painting which the subject is so well capable of: that of *Sir William Napier* (65) is also full of expression. An excellent head of *Samuel Rogers, Esq.* (41), by Samuel Laurence, in an accomplished and experienced style of painting, good in every other respect, suffers from being manifestly too large for its frame, which it crowds unnecessarily, and to its own detriment.

A large fruit painting by Mr. W. Duffield, *The Coming Feast* (105), deserves notice here, not only for its size, but its remarkable and striking success of representation. The masses of grapes are most artistically arranged, and have depth and distance in their luscious volumes, the plums are rich with bloom, resting daintily on the marble slab, whilst the carpet cloth is a very miracle of exactitude in rendering. Zeuxis might have envied the artist for his grapes, and Parrhasius for his curtain.

In the adjoining room, Mr. Laurence's *Portrait of Dr. Goodere* (195) seems well adapted for its future locality,—viz., the Medical College of Calcutta, whilst the introduction of the subject for dissection, though necessary in order to convey the required meaning, would probably be an objection for general purposes. It is in other respects a dignified portrait, simple and impressive.

Here also are several paintings by the Launders, members of the Scottish Academy. The *Portrait* (207) by J. E. Lauder is a fine study of light and shade, in a manly vigorous style, worthy of a stu-

dent of Rembrandt. *A Maiden's Reverie* (177) by the same, is deficient in beauty of features, whilst the tawny complexion of *Ruth* (214) is not compensated for by effective drawing on the right side of the figure, which is indistinct and loose, but an air of elevated feeling is perceptible in all these works.

A great similarity is manifest in the works of R. S. Lauder. *A Cacciatore of the Abruzzi* (144) exhibits characteristic traits in his costume and strangely constructed fowling-piece, but the figure is rather dwarfed. In *The Wishing Bone* (189) a like want of beauty is perceived in the ladies' faces, and, it must be added, of expression also: but *The Rabbit-house* (208), though small, conveys a more pleasing effect than any other of these compositions. The variety and extent of resources they exhibit is yet an example which may well be commended to many of our southern artists.

Mr. Dawson's view of *Nottingham, from Wilford Hills* (220), is undoubtedly a very fine production. In the whole treatment of the subject are evidences of much power and versatility: the numerous objects in the foreground show great fertility as well as ease in the composition, whilst the drawing of the pine-trees is imaginative and poetical. A great merit in this picture, moreover, is the drawing of the sky: in scarcely any other landscape is the perspective of this important region so clearly marked, the sides and under surfaces of the clouds are given, and the mass of vapour in the centre is equally true and imposing.

Mr. Glass has contributed but one picture, but that a very agreeable one—*Late for the Ferry* (239). It appears to be a sort of compound of the Trooper subjects, with which all are now familiar, and the scenes from Don Quixotte, which we remember from him. The introduction of the shady lane leading down into the scene from the right is a favourite expedient of the artist, and agreeably contrasts by its dark shades with the light of the evening sun. Then the group in all its members is complete. The cavalier and his lady apart; the captain of the escort, in light and pleasant conference with the superiors in rank; and the genial and appropriate means of relaxation adopted by his riders, who are discussing tankards at the hands of one pretty serving-maid, whilst another brings a foaming jug from the alehouse, and the retiring ferry-boat is summoned in vain by another mounted horseman on the shore—all this shows a dramatic power, which is matched by the simple and unaffected arrangement, the pleasing effect of gay dresses, and the general light-heartedness of the whole scene. We hear of a group in nature being called 'quite a picture,' when such really occurs we may be satisfied that Mr. Glass could make 'quite a picture' of it.

A landscape on a large scale in this room, the joint production of F. W. Hulme and H. Brittan Willis, called *River Scenery, N. Wales* (269), is pleasing in its middle distances, and in the tints of the trees in the valley. The cattle, also, are well arranged, and appear in great numbers. There is a mannerism, however, in the foliage which clothes the distant hills, which is traceable in all Mr. Hulme's works. A leaden hue and a degree of sameness in this feature of the painting detracts from the interest of the scene.

Mr. Reuben Sayer's pictures are again this year conspicuous for attentive drawing, and a fullness of colour, that give a pleasing general effect. In *Asleep and Awake* (300), however, the child's head seems to rest rather uneasily, and the dress is not altogether well arranged; very little of the form is perceptible, except the head and the arm, which last is very carefully drawn. In *The Mountain Maid* (315) we have an abundance of warm colour, which has, however, a tendency to become rather dry in the dark parts, and wants clearness to make it quite acceptable.

Young Love (302), a genre subject of low life, naturally and unaffectedly treated by William Hensley, attracts immediate attention for its simple, straightforward, complete, and unexaggerated expression of just the style and needful amount of sentiment intended to be conveyed, which is not

very profound or refined, as the reader may imagine, when the loves are those of a stable-boy and a scullery-maid. But the scene is natural and amusing, and withal does not degenerate into a caricature.

Mr. Cobbett's figures are very pleasing this year. Amidst several charming figures and pretty faces it is difficult to give a preference between *Black-berry Gatherers* (99), and *A Rustic Peasant* (322). The attractions of these subjects are too apparent to need comment, and the only point on which we are disposed to be critical is the occasional shortness of some of the figures. They might be taller and more slender, to correspond with the really refined beauty of the features in many cases. Haste, also, is occasionally perceptible, and nothing by the artist in this exhibition is equal to the picture in the British Institution, mentioned 'L. G.' p. 185.

Two paintings in the French style, by F. Besson of Manchester, are conspicuous for their novelty as well as general merit. One, the subject of which is *Boucher, the celebrated Painter, buying Cherries of the beautiful Rosine* (151), which was exhibited at Birmingham last year, is very promising. It is worthy of a disciple of Watteau and Greuze, and conveys not a little of their peculiar charm. The colour is picturesque, and the attitudes easy, whilst the graces of the composition are not forced, but flow from it with all the freedom of nature itself. The figures exhibit also the fantastic manners of that age, but with all the elegance that was cultivated at the same time. Rosine is perhaps a little in the background, as compared with her admirer, the painter. In the other picture, *Venus attended by Cupids* (135), on panel, there is more of the style which descended to the French school, through Nicholas Poussin and the Carracci, down from the great Correggio himself, and which they pleasingly modified into graceful and effeminate groups, such as Greuze loved, but which Boucher carried to a culpable extent of wanton representation. In its purer form, however, the style was familiar to Stothard, for the sake of its numberless beauties, and the present sketch is an offspring of the same descent. It abounds with a taste and a freedom which are seldom found in such happy combination amongst us.

To leave the associations which these pictures revive for such a subject as Mr. W. Maw Egley's *Katharine of Aragon and Anne Boleyn* (47), is to pass at once to the opposite quarter of the pictorial compass. A Teutonic hardness of feature and modern flashiness of colour combined: the mediæval associations of the tapestry with its Egyptian (?) designs; the formal entrance of the odious king, with divorce, violence, and murder in his very tread; the forced incident of the lapdogs, and the expression of the waiting-ladies' faces—are all of a school which may certainly have its influence in checking enthusiasm and keeping art steady. But the effect is far from pleasing; the attitudes and faces which would mean something in a mediæval production, as showing the imperfect struggles of art expression, are opposed to our modes of representation, nor is there enough of nature to shine through the obsolete manners of the 16th century, if they are meant to be conveyed. Were the colouring in this picture far more skilful than it is, and the textures more natural, it would still be clear that, as we cannot think as people thought, so cannot our artists hope to paint, even if they wish it, as artists painted in the time of Holbein.

PANORAMA OF THE ALHAMBRA AND VALLEY OF GRANADA.

WE were yesterday favoured by Mr. Burford with a private view of this painting, which he has just completed in conjunction with Mr. Selous, of this celebrated region of poetry, romance, and picturesque beauty. An intimate acquaintance with the actual sites enables us to speak most confidently on the extreme accuracy of the representation, and of the faithful adherence to the local colour, costume, and the characteristics of this former Paradise of the Moors, and the brightest pearl in the crown of Castile. We understand that the details have been

carefully copied from drawings made on the spot by Mr. Uwins and Lady Louisa Tenison, and verified by calotypes, which cannot err in outline, proportion, or position. The male and female peasants who dance the fandango in the foreground, and the swarthy muleteers clad in parti-coloured jackets, and their animals caparisoned in all the rich and gaudy trappings of Andalusia, have been taken from actual models, and the groups have been put together in a natural and joyous manner.

The point from whence the panorama has been taken is the garden of the Generalife, which hangs under a rocky eminence, and commands the country below spread out like a map. Thus we have the wooded ravine, the Alhambra with its towers, the gardens and convents, and the vast extent beyond. This is the celebrated *Vega*, where every field has had its battle, and every spot its ballad. The beautiful plain which, from being thick-set with sparkling houses, has been compared to a sea of emeralds studded with pearls, is girdled by a mountain wall, which encloses it like the happy valley of Rasselas. On the right rise the ranges of the Moclin pass, under the purple Elvira, and nestling among its woods lies the *Soto de Roma*, the estate given to the late Duke of Wellington by Spain. The extreme point of the plain is closed by the gorge of Loja; turning to the right, the clear horizon is cut by the hills above Alhama, that outpost city whose loss has formed the theme of many a plaintive ballad. More to the left soars, some 12,000 feet high, the Sierra Nevada, with its diadem of snow, from whence gush perennial streams, the element of fertility to the earth, and never-failing cool breezes and pure snow to refresh the parched dust of mortals. Our limits preclude any detailed particulars of the infinite places and objects which this suggestive subject presents, and they are pointed out in a libretto provided with references; to this some general notices are prefixed, explanatory of Granada, the Alhambra, and the Moors, which have been compiled somewhat hyperbolically from the best historical romantic and descriptive sources—Prescott's 'Ferdinand and Isabella,' Washington Irving's 'Tales of the Alhambra,' and from Ford's 'Handbook for Spain.'

We cannot dismiss this subject without one parting word of thanks to Mr. Burford, who for nearly half a century has gratified the public eye with these panoramic representations of many of the fairest sites of the universe. Thus those who from various causes have been unable to visit the places themselves, have had the distant scene transported to their own doors, and reflected as it were to the life itself in his artistic mirror. Mr. Burford shows no marks of decreasing power, and this may be pronounced one of the most admirable of his productions; nor must we omit a word of commendation to Mr. Selous, whose spirited and well-drawn figures give life, reality, and nationality to Granada, this garden of Spanish delight, this bit of heaven, fallen, according to the Moors, to earth.

The sale of the gallery of the Prince of Canino took place on Saturday last, at Messrs. Christie and Manson's. These pictures, as it is well known, were, with the exception of four works, reserved at the sale of the celebrated gallery of the late Cardinal Fesch, by his grandnephew, the Prince. The collection was not extensive in point of numbers, consisting altogether of 47 subjects, only two of which fetched high prices. One of these, which was the last sold, obtained the sum of 1200*l*. It is by Rubens, entitled *The Adoration of the Magi*. The subject was often repeated by the master, and the present composition contains seventeen figures, their robes of peculiarly rich and grand texture. In 1766, the picture belonged to the Church of Berg-Saint-Vinoux, and was then sold to pay the expenses of the Church: it passed successively through the hands of Randon de Boissel and Lebrun, was purchased by Citizen Robit, and sold at his sale in 1801, when it became the property of Cardinal Fesch. The other valuable work was a *chef-d'œuvre* of an exceedingly rare master, Tiberio d'Assise, dated 1597, in the style and of the age of

Pietro Perugino, which was sold for 399l. The Virgin and Child sit on an elevated throne, before a gold back-ground. There are two angels on each side, kneeling upon clouds, with their hands joined on their breasts: on the left of the throne are St. Francis and St. John the Evangelist; on the right St. John the Baptist and the Pope Leo.

A *Passage of the Red Sea*, by Raphael Sanzio, sold for 66l; a *Portrait of Pico di Mirandola*, by A. Mantegna, for 53l. 11s.; an *Annunciation*, by P. de Champagne, for 50l. 8s.; a pair of subjects, representing the death of a cardinal, by Fra Angelico, for 28 guineas each; *St. Charles Borromeo*, by Ann. Carracci, for 36 guineas; a remarkable picture, painted on both sides, one representing *The Temptation of St. Anthony*, the other *The Exorcising of an Evil Spirit*, which appears issuing out of the mouth of the possessed in the shape of a winged dragon, by an artist who signs "N. M. D., 1520," for 15 guineas; and *The Death of Abel*, by Goltzius, stated to be his *chef-d'œuvre*, dated 1613, for 43l. 1s.

The remainder were worthy of the early Italian schools, with one by Coppel, *The Sacrifice of Abraham*, which has been engraved by P. Drevet, 21l., and one or two from Haarlem. A *Virgin and Child*, by Ghirlandajo, reached 25 guineas; two subjects, the *Burial of the Virgin*, and *Virgin and Child*, by Fra Filippo Lippi, 18 guineas and 10l. But, with the two exceptions above mentioned, the prices obtained were not high; four large and somewhat faded subjects by Albert Dürer were not sold, and a curious *St. Bernard*, inscribed "Opus Caroli Crivelli, Veneti, 1477," was withdrawn at 56l. 14s.

The opening of the Annual Exhibition of the Works of Living Artists at Paris has been postponed to the 15th May, owing to the impossibility of getting the building ready sooner, and in consequence works need only be sent in from the 1st to the 15th of April. It is expected that the exhibition will be unusually brilliant. Most of the principal French artists (Veruet excepted) have paintings on the easel for it, and sculptors intend to come out at it in unusual force.

MUSIC.

THE SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY gave last evening, at Exeter Hall, a second performance of Mendelssohn's 'Lobgesang' and Mozart's 'Requiem.' Next week, being Passion week, *The Messiah* will be performed, on the 23rd, by the Sacred Harmonic, and, on the 24th, by the London Sacred Harmonic Society. On Tuesday evening, the 22nd, Mr. Horsley's oratorio, *Joseph*, is to be performed, the chief vocalists being Misses Birch, E. Birch, M. Williams, and Messrs. Lockett and Lawler. On Friday, the 22nd of next month, there is to be a performance of *The Messiah*, under patronage of the Queen and Prince Albert, in aid of the funds of the Royal Society of Musicians.

The Philharmonic Societies, old and new, have both commenced their season auspiciously, but we must defer our notice of their performances until next week. There have been various concerts of a superior kind. On Monday the last meeting for the season took place of the English Glee and Madrigal Union at Willis's Rooms. On Thursday was the last of the four Musical Winter Evenings under Mr. Ella's direction. On the same evening Mr. C. Salaman gave his second *souirée* of classical music, assisted by Messrs. Sainton, R. Blagrove, Hancock, Reynolds, Messent, and A. Pierre. At Mr. Sterndale Bennett's concert on Tuesday at the Hanover-square Rooms, some masterly performances of instrumental music were heard, as might be expected from such an artist as Mr. Bennett, with Sainton, Piatti, Nicholson, Baumann, C. Harper, and other distinguished performers. Beethoven's quintet for pianoforte and wind instruments was given with admirable effect. A number of musical entertainments are announced for Passion week. By Mr. Alcock, at Exeter Hall; by Mr. George Tedder, at the Olympic; by the managers of Sadler's Wells, and other theatres,

concerts are to be given, at which 'all the available talent' in London, vocal and instrumental, will be heard.

At Paris, M. Grisar, the composer, has brought out a grand operatic spectacle at the Théâtre Lyrique, under the title of *Les Amours du Diable*. The plot is perfectly incomprehensible, and the incidents are extravagantly incoherent:—all that could be made out of either, was that a Hungarian noble raises the devil by enchantment, offends him by something he says, is made over by him to a she-devil, is wofully persecuted by her for a long time because he will not love her, and is miraculously rescued from her clutches at last by his guardian angel just as she is about to carry him off to the dark regions below. The same plot and incidents, it appears, served some time ago for a *ballet* at the Grand Opéra, and M. de Saint-Georges, the author of the *libretto*, has not thought it necessary to make up for their want of novelty by any great originality or smartness in his "poem." As to M. Grisar's music, though of greater pretensions than any of his previous productions, it is of very unequal character, some parts being very good, others middling, and others decidedly bad. Since the first representation, extensive cuttings have been made in it: but though this has diminished the defects, it has not removed them entirely. Amongst the *morceaux* most admired are a pleasant melody in *sol major*, with chorus, and a sprightly drinking-song in the first act; a very brilliant trio in the second act; and a fine chorus of slaves in the third. The general impression left by the piece is that M. Grisar would do well for the future to confine himself to little one or two-act productions. In these his music is gay, sparkling, *léger*—just what an *opéra comique* should be, and it is studded with melodies of much grace; whereas in long four-act pieces he seems quite out of his depth. The opera was creditably sustained by the *troupe*, especially by Madame Colson, and by Tallon and Coulon. The latter, by the way, belongs to the Opéra Comique, but M. Perrin, the director of that house, kindly lent him to the Lyrique theatre, in consequence of two performers specially engaged having failed its director—one by wilful breach of his contract, the other from sickness. It is not often that a theatrical manager is capable of such an act of friendliness to a rival.

The other musical events of the week at Paris are not of striking importance. The Grand Opéra has repeated Rossini's *Motse* with greater effect than on its first reproduction, and it has given some of its stock pieces. Its management talks vaguely of putting Spontini's *Festale* into rehearsal: it has been in grim repose for years. In our next probably we shall have to give an account of the first performance, at the Opéra Comique, of the new opera, *La Tonelli*, which has been in preparation for some time. The piece is founded on the adventures of an Italian cantatrice of that name, who was very popular in Paris about a century ago. Madame Ugalde is to be the *Tonelli*. The Parisians still continue to be deluged with concerts. The principal of these have been by Herz, the well-known pianist, and by Felicien David, author of the ode-symphony, the *Desert*.

By the accidental transposition of a few lines in our last, it was made to appear that Lablache's daughter had *debuted* before the court at Paris, whereas it should have been before the Imperial Court at St. Petersburg. By a letter from St. Petersburg we learn that Balfe is giving concerts in that city with very great success. One of them, consisting of selections from his own works, was attended by the Emperor and Empress, and by upwards of three thousand of the principal aristocracy. From Russia, Balfe is to proceed to Vienna, to superintend the bringing out of one of his own operas. "Nothing," says our St. Petersburg letter, "can exceed the generous and delicate protection which the Emperor and the Imperial family extend to eminent musicians. Not only are they constant attendants at their performances, and hearty in expressing their admiration, but they frequently converse freely with them, and appear anxious to make their stay agreeable.

Nor is this all—they make them valuable presents. Balfe, for his part, after his first concert, had a splendid diamond ring given to him by the Empress; and the *élite* of the Italian company have received large proofs of Imperial munificence. The Italians gave recently *La Sonnambula*, for the benefit of Madame Viardot. After the performance the Emperor went behind the scenes and warmly complimented the lady; he then offered her his arm, and led her to the box of the Empress, to whom he presented her with the most gracious kindness." The *Prophet* has had his name changed here to the *Siege of Ghent*, but the title is a sad historical blunder, for it was at Munster that the prophesying of the Anabaptists was besieged. Madame Viardot has been engaged to personate *Fides*—the part she originally 'created.' In the same city the Italian company is performing with very great success indeed, and a very good company it is, as it comprises Lablache, Mario, Ronconi, Tagliafico, Bassini, and Mesdames Medori and Maray. *William Tell* is in preparation by them, but the name of the poor Swiss patriot does not sound agreeably in the polite ears of the Russian authorities, and that of *Charles the Bold* has been substituted for it!

THE DRAMA.

MR. WEBSTER'S benefit at the HAYMARKET on Monday evening was attended by a very numerous body of friends, who were profuse in their acknowledgments of his merits as a manager, and these we understand still further honoured in a most agreeable manner behind the curtain at the close of the performances. Mr. Webster took his farewell of the Haymarket audience in a speech of some length, in which he alluded with just pride to the punctual and complete fulfilment of all his engagements, in spite of the fluctuations of success during a sixteen years' management; not, however, as he stated it to be, the longest upon record, but sufficient to entitle him to all praise on the point in question—a point of greater importance, not only to the respectability but the success of theatrical undertakings, than may at the first glance appear to be the case. Mr. Webster spoke also of the large sum he had paid to authors. The number of new pieces produced under his management has certainly been great, and the actual failures few, whilst of those dramas which bid fair to retain their place permanently on the stage, Mr. Webster has undoubtedly in that time brought out more than an average proportion; he has added largely to our list of stock pieces. Mr. Webster also pointed to the fact that he had expended large sums in the improvement of the theatre, in addition to a very heavy rent, and appeared to consider that he had ground of complaint towards the proprietors of the building, who have not met him in a corresponding spirit of liberality. He also announced his retirement to the Adelphi, the successes of which establishment had, he hinted, enabled him to keep open the Haymarket; and, in conclusion, expressed cordially his wishes of prosperity for his brother actor and successor in management, Mr. Buckstone.

Doubtless many faults, some of them systematic, might be pointed out in Mr. Webster's management of the Haymarket theatre, but as a whole, it has unquestionably tended to keep up the reputation of the dramatic profession, and as a spirited and liberal caterer for the public, active in the search for novelty, and at all times ready to produce it, both in the shape of new pieces and new actors, and unremitting in his exertions in the honest pursuit of success, he is entitled to great praise, and will be followed to his "Elba" with the best wishes of the London playgoers.

Two one-act novelties have appeared at the St. JAMES'S this week; one, *Le Mariage au Miroir*, in which the reflections in a mirror are instrumental in carrying out a very slight plot, and securing the happiness of a young lady performed by Mlle. Luther, and the other, *Les Ressources de Jonathan*, known to the frequenters of our own minor theatres as *That Rascal Jack*. By means of one good comic incident it achieved a moderate

success, and that owing entirely to the humorous acting of M. Ravel, as a roguish servant who has hired himself to two masters.

The LYCEUM and HAYMARKET are both closed till the holidays; the PRINCESS's relies upon the continued attraction of *Macbeth*; and at DRURY LANE Mr. Sands continues to perform nightly his 'antipodal' feat. Translations of Scribe's *Marco Spada* are in preparation at the PRINCESS's and OLYMPIC, and, to add one more link to the 'chain of events,' a drama in nine acts is to be the Easter novelty at the LYCEUM.

M. Ponsard's five-act comedy, *Honneur et Argent*, which has been so much talked of lately in Paris, has been produced within the last few days at the Odéon Theatre in that city. It has obtained a very marked success. A different result was expected, as not only was the piece rejected by the Théâtre Français (or what is nearly the same thing, received only with chilling reluctance, and designated for performance in the Greek Kalends), but nobody supposed that the chief of the cold and correct "common-sense" school of poetry, the resuscitator of the old-fashioned classical style, which fell so terribly out of favour on the triumph of Hugo, Dumas, and the "romantics," possessed sufficient of the *vis comica* to produce a tolerable comedy. He has done so, however, and has thereby not only universally increased his "glory," which had been gradually declining since *Lucrèce*, in spite of the favour with which his different pieces were received, but has made his admirers proclaim him the modern Molière with as much modest assurance as they formerly called him the modern Corneille.

Our letters represent the new play to be exactly what we should have expected from the previous works of the author—that is to say, calm, correct, dignified, austere in its versification, and faithful to the command of Horace—

"Aut famam sequere, aut sibi convenientia finge"—

in character, incident, and plot, which means, in other terms, without any of those "thoughts that breathe and words that burn," or those magnificent creations, or those masterly combinations of incident or structure of plot, which characterize the works of the great dramatic poets of antiquity and of the great Shakespeare. Ponsard, in truth, is not a poet as we understand the term, but a writer of pretty, and sometimes effective, prose in rhyme; not a "creator," but a copyist; not one of those *dites* of mankind who can read "sermons in stones," but a shrewd, worldly-wise, "common-sense" gentleman, who sees men and things exactly as the profane vulgar see them, though able to talk about them more smartly.

In *Honneur et Argent*, a young man blessed with wealth professes the most unbounded admiration for "honour," and the most intense indignation against all who, even under the influence of distress, swerve a hair's breadth from its narrow path; then reduced by the practice of his own precepts (devoting his fortune to the payment of his father's debts) to beggary, he finds himself by distress driven to the verge of doing a very dishonourable thing, and one which he formerly particularly denounced—marrying an old maid, whom he does not and cannot love, for the sake of her wealth. This is the sum and substance of the piece—complicated, however, with such familiar incidents as the flattery of the hero by troops of friends when he was wealthy, and their cruel abandonment when he became poor, together with the love of a beautiful girl and the friendship of her father—a very virtuous old gentleman (in words) in his palmy days—and her marriage with another, and the virtuous papa's indignant rejection of him in his days of poverty and desolation. From this it is clear that the play is intended to teach the moral that though "honour" is a very good thing in its way, it is absolutely indispensable in these degenerate times that it should be accompanied with "money" also, to render the practice of it easy. The moral has small claims to be considered new; but it is certainly undoubtedly true, at least to a great extent. In developing it, M. Ponsard dis-

plays talent of a respectable order, and in some places writes very vigorously, whilst in one or two he has capital comic touches; but he falls into the fault of proclaiming with pomposity commonplace truths and moral maxims of the school-boy-copy-book style. The play is not badly acted. Tisserant Laferrière and a Mlle. Valerie figure in it to most advantage. The former has a rôle which bears a strong similarity to Molière's *Alceste* in the *Misanthrope*.

The only other dramatic novelty in Paris which need be mentioned is a grand melodrama by M. Paul Féval, at the Porte St. Martin. It is called *Le Frère Tranquille*, and professes to be founded on some events in the history of the famous Count d'Armagnac; but it is an extravagant production. It is well acted and got up, and it is to that that its success must be ascribed. Its author, by the way, has given to the world several absurd novels, and a series of 'Mysteries of London' of the most stupendous character.

VARIETIES.

Leopold von Buch.—"The admirable and just biographical notice you gave last week of the deceased Baron Leopold von Buch has recalled to my memory several characteristic traits, of which I beg you will allow me to mention to you one, thinking, as I do, that it strikingly illustrates his noble character, the chief features of which were real kindness shown in the most considerate manner. Several years ago two brothers of Sir Robert Schomburgk emigrated to Australia. They had been residing in Berlin, and were personally known to and esteemed by the Baron for their scientific attainments and characters. In due course they took leave of their friends, Herr von Buch among the rest, but just before their departure they received an unexpected visit from the latter, who again bid them kindly farewell and wished them all success. Judge of their surprise when, after he had gone, they found he had left upon the table a small parcel addressed to them, in opening which they found a considerable sum of money, which the Baron requested them to accept as a little assistance in their settling in Australia. In the note which was enclosed he said that he hoped one day to undertake a voyage to Australia, and as he wished to find a house ready to receive him there, he requested them to lay out this sum of money in building a small house for that purpose. There is now, some thirty miles north of Adelaide, a settlement called *Buchsfelde*, named thus by the settlers in grateful remembrance of their kind and generous friend, whose character ought to be no less known and appreciated than his scientific merits.

"F.R.G.S."

The *Literary Gazette*.—"Allow me to mention that, in alluding in your paper of this day to the pension granted to Mr. Jerdan, you have made a slight mistake in ascribing to that gentleman the Editorship of the 'Literary Gazette' 'from its commencement.' It was I who originated the 'Literary Gazette,' and conducted it, however imperfectly, for the first six months, when, finding that the attention it required interfered materially with my general business, I sought for an editor, and found one in the person of Mr. Jerdan, to whom, besides the *honorarium* for his editorship, I assigned, free of cost, half the copyright.

"Great Marlborough-street, "HENRY COLBURN.
March 12th, 1853."

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"RICHARD BENTLEY.

"8, New Burlington-street,
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